1763

TRAVELS

IN THE

TWO SICILIES,

BY

HENRY SWINBURNE, Esq.

IN

The Years 1777, 1778, 1779, and 1780.

VOL. I.

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PREFACE.

I CANNOT preſume to print a Tour through the Two Sicilies, without offering an apology for its appearance. They have been ſo often deſcribed, that nothing but novelty of matter can excuſe a freſh attempt. Our earlieſt education has made us acquainted with thoſe claſſic regions; Poetry and Hiſtory have rendered their topography familiar to us, and every ſchool-boy can point out the ruins of Magna Græcia and Sicily. No country, Latium alone excepted, has ſo frequently employed the pen of the antiquary; and the obſervations made by travellers of a political turn may be ſuppoſed to have canvaſſed ſufficiently the advantages as well as inconveniences of its preſent ſituation.

Under the diſcouragement ariſing from this anticipation, and the unpromiſing circumſtance of paſſing over ground often and nicely examined, I yet do not deſpair of conveying ſuch information on many heads, as may juſtify my boldneſs to the Reader, if, from a laudable deſire of improvement, any will venture with me along ſo beaten a track. Part of my route is freſh land; and where I ſhall be under the irkſome neceſſity of treading in the footſteps

of preceding authors, I hope ſomething will be ſtruck out that has eſcaped their penetration. Far be it from me, wantonly, to impugn their authority, or detract from their merits; I only wiſh to inſinuate, that, as two perſons ſeldom conſider an object in the ſame point of view, and are ſtill more rarely led by their perceptions to a combination of ideas exactly ſimilar, it is but reaſonable to hope that many openings may be left for the remarks of ſubſequent obſervers*. When allowances are made for difference of ſeaſons, diverſity of ſtudies, occaſional information, and many other accidental helps, we ſhall find an ample field ſtill remain for our curioſity to range in: to ſay nothing of the revolutions, moral, phyſical and political, effectuated by the hand of Time, which, however ſlowly and imperceptibly it may perform its operations, acts with irreſiſtible force upon the ſtate both of nature and of man. In the ſouthern parts of Italy, where the elements ferment with more than ordinary violence, where changes in government have ſucceeded each other with uncommon rapidity, the variations are more precipitate, the effects more ſtriking.

In the courſe of ſeventeen centuries, the face of things has been ſo much altered, that the deſcriptions given by the ancient claſſics can ſeldom interfere with thoſe of a modern writer. The later Latin and Italian authors, who

* Jamais deux hommes ne jugerent pareillement de meſme choſe. Et eſt impoſſible de voir deux opinions ſemblables exactement, non ſeulement de divers hommes, mais en meſme homme à diverſes heures.

ESSAIS DE MONTAGNE.

have

have treated theſe ſubjects, are but little known or read in England, and moſt of them are rather diſcuſſers of detached points of hiſtory and geography, than general circumambulatory obſervers. They were too little acquainted with the laws and cuſtoms of foreign nations, to be able to form juſt criticiſms upon thoſe of their own country; and without ſome ſolid grounds for compariſon, a writer will bewilder himſelf in his reaſonings, and betray in each page that he is blinded and miſled by ignorance and vanity.

How far my endeavours to inſtruct may be rendered ſuperfluous by any recent accounts is a point which the voice of the Public has alone a right to determine. I wait the deciſion with reſpect, but without fear, conſcious of having done my utmoſt to deſerve its indulgence; for to my own obſervations, and the information derived from books, I have added many intereſting details communicated to me by learned and curious perſons of the kingdom of Naples *.

Wherever my opinions deviate from thoſe of my predeceſſors, I have ſtudied to convey my diſſent in ſuch diffident terms, as may avoid all appearance of an attack on the literary reputation of thoſe from whom I preſume to differ in ſentiment: but this delicacy does not prevail ſo

* I am particularly indebted to Monſignor Capecelatro, Archbiſhop of Taranto; Counſellor Monſignor Galiani; D. Filippo Brigante Patrizio di Gallipoli; D. Paſquale Baffi; D. Domenico Cirillo; George Hart, Eſquire; Padre Antonio Minaſi, of the order of St. Dominick; D. Domenico Minaſi, Arciprête of Molocchio; and D. Giovanni Preſta of Gallipoli.

far as to obſtruct the liberty of judging for myſelf; the maxim of *nullius jurare in verba*, conſtitutes the very ſpirit of my undertaking. In this freedom, and a ſcrupulous attention to truth, conſiſted the chief, perhaps the only merit of my Spaniſh Tour. The ſame principle ſhall direct my pen throughout the preſent work. By thus purſuing the dull plain track of truth, I ſhall, no doubt, run the riſk of diſpleaſing ſome of my Readers; but, I confeſs, I cannot condeſcend to keep their attention alive with fiction, be it ever ſo agreeable. According to my plan, the effuſions of imagination are debarred all ſhare in the compoſition: I deny myſelf the uſual privilege of working up a trivial event into a ſentimental or laughable adventure; the lively dialogue with perſons who never honoured me with their confidence, is excluded; nor do I allow myſelf to dreſs up the trite ſtory of an old book of jeſts, and paſs it off for the ſcandalous chronicle of the day.

By refuſing the aſſiſtance of ſuch ready auxiliaries, I am aware that I weaken my force, and contract the circle of entertainment to a degree many people will diſapprove of; but I intreat them to conſider, that I am writing the account of a real Tour, and not an imitation of Sterne's Sentimental Journey.

Some Critics, I am told, have imputed as a blemiſh to my Letters on Spain, that I was rather an exact deſcriber of ſtill life, than an acute delineator of characters and manners. To this charge I can only anſwer, that having detected former writers in many errors, which they had

fallen into through haſtineſs, miſconception, or credulity, it was natural I ſhould give into the oppoſite extreme, and, by advancing nothing but what I had vouchers for, lay myſelf open to an accuſation of exceſſive caution, and conſequently dulneſs.

I am apprehenſive the ſame cenſure will be paſſed upon my preſent publication; but I chooſe to imitate the ſatiſfactory dryneſs of an authentic Gazette, rather than, like a ſprightly Morning-Paper, amuſe and miſlead, by interweaving a thouſand pleaſing impoſtures with half a dozen real facts.

The longer any man of candour reſides in a foreign country, the greater difficulty he finds in giving a character of its inhabitants. He perceives ſo many nice varieties, ſo many exceptions to general rules, as almoſt deſtroy his hopes of drawing up one comprehenſive deſcription of them: he every day becomes more conſcious of the preſumption of thoſe who run and read; and, what is worſe, write. Unfortunately, it is from ſuch rapid obſervations that moſt people are to derive their knowledge of foreign nations; and I leave it to the impartial to decide upon the probability of any reſemblance exiſting in ſuch portraits. I have read the travels of one of theſe daſhing writers *, who allots a whole chapter, with a title in capitals, to the character and manners of the Neapolitans, which points he

* Voyage de France, d'Eſpagne, de Portugal, et d'Italie, par Mr. S——. (Silhouette) in 1730.

handles

handles with as much deciſiveneſs, as if he had reſided forty years at Naples in quality of ſpy. Upon comparing the dates of his Journal, it appears, that his whole ſtay in that city was exactly five days and a half, part of which was ſpent upon Mount Veſuvius, and among the curioſities of Puzzuoli.

My ſtyle has been by ſome thought deficient in elegance and refinement; but until the poſitive ideas we are to attach to theſe words be aſcertained and generally agreed upon, I ſhall not attempt to emerge out of my humble ſphere. They have of late been much uſed, perhaps miſ-applied; and many perſons of taſte and knowledge in our language are of opinion, that the terms elegant and refined have been frequently employed in ſpeaking of writings, where the epithets, fuſtian and affected, would have been more applicable. They pretend, that many of our modern compoſitions verge to that ſimpering ſtyle known in France by the name of *precieux*, which breaks out in an unneceſſary adoption of foreign and learned phraſes, a fondneſs for ſounding words to expreſs common ideas, and a continual round of metaphorical and bombaſtical imagery. I do not know how far theſe critics may have reaſon on their ſide, but as I feel no ambition to try any daring flights, I ſhall reſt contented, if I am allowed in this work the ſame merits that were granted me in my Spaniſh Tour, viz. truth, perſpicuity, and common ſenſe.

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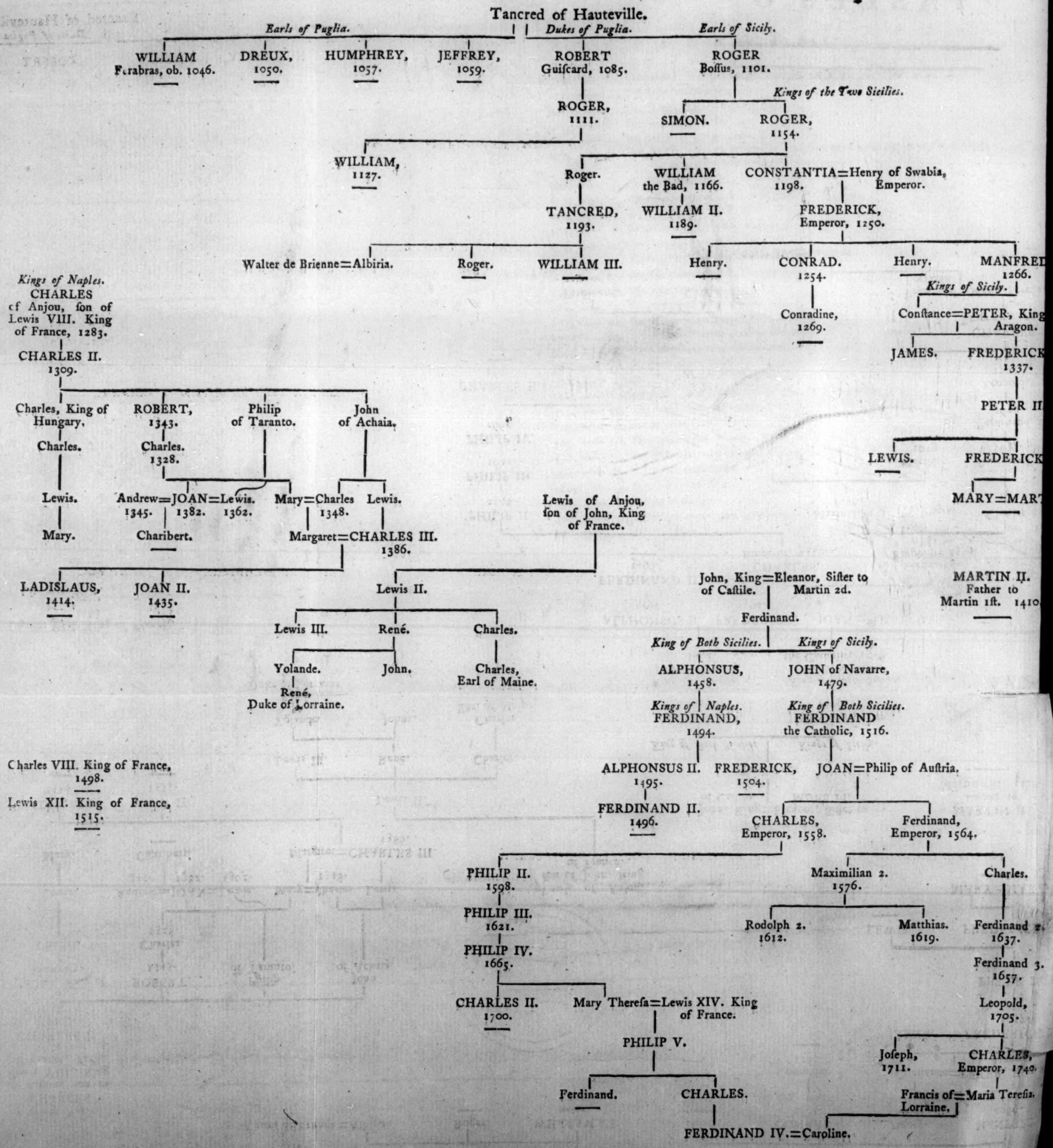
ERRATA.

Page 89, line 21, for *ponti.* ‡ *Ingerit celsa* read *ponti ingerit.* ‡ *Celsa.*
101, —— 7, for *beſta* read *beſtia.*
106, —— 20, for *ſpirit, had* read *ſpirit had.*
107, —— 13, for *riſe, at* read *riſe at.*
136, —— 6, for *arbor ſuda* read *arbor Juda.*
190, —— 27, for *ſupplies of corn from other countries* read *other countries for a ſupply of corn.*
198, —— 3, for *bout* read *About.*
215, —— 5, for *incluſively, to about* read *incluſively, about.*
222, —— 7, for *this ſide* read *this ſite.*
226, —— 5, for *at the high* read *at the end of the high.*
245, —— 10, for *Lucrene* read *Lucrine.*
258, —— 17, for *veſſels fly* read *veſſels could fly.*
260, —— 23, for *Tarentorum* read *Tarentinorum.*
261, —— 16, for *æquo* read *equo.*
274, —— 5, for *properly* read *profuſely.*
274, —— 21, for *Metapontorum* read *Metapontinorum.*
277, —— 19, for *a few off miles* read *a few miles off.*
299, —— 23, for *Carigliano* read *Corigliano.*
300, —— 25, for *tracks* read *tracts.*
312, —— 9, for *Philocletes* read *Philoctetes.*
321, —— 11, for *high, rocks coarſe.* read *high, the rocks coarſe.*
321, —— 16, for *fallen* read *deſtroyed.*
325, —— 6, for *Ithican* read *Ithacan.*
325, —— 16, for *Ithica* read *Ithaca.*
330, —— 24, for *Palermo. After* read *Palermo, after.*
346, —— 25, for *tufted* read *luted.*
360, —— 9, for *rhind* read *rind.*
395, —— 8, for *leg* read *legs.*
409, —— 6, for *break on all* read *break out on all.*

A GENEALOGICAL TABLE of the SOVEREIGNS of the TWO SICILIES.



TABLES OF COINS, &c.

GOLD COINS.

1. Piece of ſix ducats.
2. Piece of four ducats.
3. Piece of three ducats, or, Oncia, a Sicilian coin.
4. Piece of two ducats.

BRASS COINS.

The piece of 1 grano and 6 calli *, called the Publica †.

1	0
0	9
0	6

The Torneſe ‡.

0	4
0	3

SILVER COINS.

Piece of 13 carlini & 2 grana.

12	0
10	0 The ducat, very ſcarce.
6	6
6	0 Very common.
5	0 The patacca, ſcarce.
4	0 Common.
3	0 Common.
2	6
2	4
2	0 The Neapolitan tari.
1	3
1	2
1	0 The carlino of Naples, and tari of Sicily.
0	5

1 Oncia
1 Ducat
1 Carlino
1 Grano
} contains {
3 ducats.
10 carlini.
10 grana.
12 calli.

Accounts are kept at Naples in ducats, carlini, and grana; but regular merchants keep theirs in two columns only, viz. ducats and grana.

The Neapolitan ducat, upon the ſuppoſed par with England, is worth forty-five pence, or 3 *s.* 9 *d.* ſterling, and the carlino 4$\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* but this is no fixed rule, as exchange is continually varying, and occaſionally makes a difference of ten or fifteen per cent. higher or lower, and ſometimes even more.

* Calli ought to be written Cavalli, from the horſes ſtamped on the coin of Ferdinand the Firſt, who, by a wretched quibble, put on it the legend, *Æquitas regni*.

† Publica is ſo named from its motto, *Publica commoditas*.

‡ A word taken from the French *Tournois*.

WEIGHTS and MEASURES.

1 Cantaro 1 Rotolo 1 Pound	contains	100 rotoli 33⅓ ounces 12 ounces.	N. B. The Neapolitan cantaro is equal to 196 Engliſh ℔ of Averdupois weight; and the rotolo to 2 Engliſh ℔. The pound is a trifling fraction above 11 oz. Engliſh.

LONG-MEASURE.

1 Cana contains 8 palmi.——It is computed that 2⅓ yards Engliſh make a Neapolitan canna, and that a palmo is equal to 10½ inches Engliſh.

LAND-MEASURE.

Land is meaſured by the moggia, a ſuperficial quantity containing 900 paſſi, each paſſo containing 7⅓ palmi.

LAND-MEASURE in PUGLIA.

1 Caro 1 Verſura 1 Catena 1 Paſſo	contains	20 verſure 6 catene 10 paſſi 7 palmi.

DRY-MEASURE.

Wheat is meaſured by the tomolo, of which 5⅓ are equal to an Engliſh quarter.

WINE-MEASURE.

Wine is meaſured by the barrel, containing 66 caraffi, equal to 9⅓ Engliſh gallons.——In the city of Naples, the barrel contains only 60 caraffi.

OIL-MEASURE.

1 Salma 1 Star 1 Rotolo	contains	16 ſtars 10⅓ rotoli 33⅓ ounces, equal to 2 ℔ Engliſh.

A ſalma contains about 40 Engliſh gallons.

ROADS

ROADS of the Kingdom of NAPLES.

Poſt-Road from Rome to Naples.

From Rome to Terracina	
Fondi	1 1/2
Itri	1
Mola	1
Garigliano	1
S. Agata	1
Francoliſi	1
Capua	1
Averſa	1
Naples. Poſt royal.	

Poſt-Road from Naples to Caſerta.

From Naples to Caivano, poſt royal.	
Caſerta	1

From Caſerta to S. Luci	1/2
From Caſerta to the Aqueduct	1
From Caſerta to Capua	0 2/3

From Naples to Puzzuoli, poſt royal.

Poſt-Road from Naples to Manfredonia.

From Naples to Marigliano, p.r. &	1/2
Cardinale	1 1/2
Avellino	1 1/2
Dentecane	1 1/2
Grottaminarda	1
Ariano	1
Savignano	1
Ponte di Bovino	1 1/2
Lucera	2
Foggia	2
Manfredonia	3

Poſt-Road from Naples to Leccé.

From Naples to Ponte Bovino	10 1/2
Ordona	1 1/2
Cerignuola	1 1/2
S. Caſſano	1
Barletta	1
Biſceglia	1
Giovenazzo	1
Bari	1 1/2
Mola	0 1/2
Monopoli	1 1/2
Faſano	1
Oſtuni	1 1/2
S. Vito	1
Meſagna	1 1/2
Cellino	1 1/2
Lecce	1 1/2

Poſt-Road from Naples to Perſano.

From Naples to La Nunziata, p.r.	1/2
Nocera	1
Salerno	1
Vicenza	1
Evoli	1
Perſano	1

From Naples to Peſto.

To Evoli	5 1/2
Peſto	1 1/2

Price. 11 Carlini each pair of horſes, and 5 1/2 more at the poſt royal. 3 Carlini are the due of the poſtillion for each pair of horſes.

Poſt-Road from Naples to Reggio.

To Evoli	5½
La Ducheſſa	1
Auletta	1
Sala	1
Caſalnuovo	1
Lagonegro	1
Lauria	1
Caſtelluccio	1
La Rotonda	1
Caſtrovillari	1
Eſero	1
Celſo	1
To Pantoni	1
Coſenza	1
Rogliano	1
Seigliano	1
S. Biaſe	1 *
Fondaco del Fico	1
Monteleone	1
S. Petro de Melito	1
Droſi	1
Seminare	1
Paſſo di Solani	1
Fiumara di Muro	1
Catona	1 †
Reggio	1

ROUTES of CALESSI, Muleteers and Vetturini.

From Naples to Reggio, by Puglia.

1. Day, dinner at Cardinale, ſup- at Avellino.
2. Mirabella——Ariano.
3. Ponte di Bovino——Ordona.
4. Canoſa——San Coſimo.
5. Fontana d'Ogna——Gravina.
6. Matera.
7. Vallecupa——Torredi Mare.
8. Policoro——Rocca Imperiale.
9. Caſtel Roſeto——Trebiſaccia.
10. Madonna dell' Arma——Bufalara di Caſſano.
11. Torre de Pàolini——Mirti.
12. Cariati——Capo d'Alice.
13. Faſano——Cotrone.
14. Cutri——Megliacane.
15. Taverna Nova——Caſine di Catanzaro. Carriages can go no farther; and litters are uſed from hence.
16. Borgia——Fondaco del Fico.
17. Monteleone——Seminara.
18. Scilla.
19. Reggio.

From Naples to Reggio, by Salerno.

1. Nocera——Salerno.
2. Vicenza——Evoli.
3. La Ducheſſa——Polla.
4. Sala——S. Lorenzo.
5. Caſalnuovo——Lagonero.
6. Lauria——Caſtelluccio.
7. La Rotonda——Murano.
8. Oria——Corigliano.
9. Roſſano——Mirti.
10. Cariati——Capo d'Alice.
11. Foſſaro——Cotrone.
12. Cutri——Megliacane.
13. Catanzaro.
14. Borgia——Aqua che Favella.
15. Pizzo——Monteleone.
16. Seminara.
17. Reggio.

From Naples to Aquila in Abruzzo.

To Clavi	23 miles	Caſtel del Sangro	21	Novelli	14
Triverno	23	Sulmona	20	Aquila	14

* Here is a road of communication to Catanzaro.—Two poſts.
† Here one embarks for Meſſina.

A

GEOGRAPHICAL VIEW

OF THE

KINGDOM OF NAPLES.

THIS Kingdom occupies the moſt ſouthern extremity of Italy, and extends from latitude 42° 50′ to latitude 37° 50′; and from longitude 14° to longitude 19° Eaſt from London. Its greateſt length 450 Italian miles; breadth 140; circumference 1,468. Its ſurface contains 3,500 ſquare leagues; or, as ſome geographers compute, 14,508,973 Moggie, each of which is a ſquare of 30 paces on each ſide; every pace of ſeven palms and one-fifth:—but theſe are rough calculations. Situation and Extent.

The Apennine runs through it from North to South; a branch of the Apennine runs Weſt, to form the promontory of Sorrento. Monte Gargano is a promontory on the Adriatic Sea; Monte Barbaro, Miſeno, and Veſuvius, are inſulated mountains. Mountains.

Garigliano and Voltorno, navigable; Tronto, Aterno, Sangro, Fortore, Ofanto, Baſiento, Agri, Crati, Metramo, Amato, Silari, and Sarno. Rivers.

Celano

Lakes. Celano, Agnano, Averno, Licola, Fuſaro, Patria, Leſina, Fondi.

Iſlands. In the Mediterranean, Ponza, Ventotiene, Iſchia, Procida, Niſida, Capri, Galli, Licoſa, Dino.

In the Ionian, the iſland of Calypſo, Monte Sardo, S. Andrea, and S. Pelagia.

In the Adriatic, Tremiti and Pelagoſa.

Number of Inhabitants. In 1669, it amounted to 2,500,000; in 1765, to 3,953,098; in 1773, to 4,249,430; and in 1779, to 4,641,363, excluſive of the army and naval eſtabliſhment.

Provinces. Twelve; viz. Terra di Lavoro, Principato citra, Principato ultra, Baſilicata, Capitanata, County of Moliſe, Terra di Otranto, Calabria citra, Calabria ultra, Abruzzo citra, and Abruzzo ultra. Theſe contain 2,067 univerſita, under the denomination of cities, towns, and villages.

Tribunals. At Naples,—Camera di Santa Chiara, S. R. C. di Santa Chiara, Sommaria, Vicaria, Del Almirante, Conſolato, Della Lana, Della Seta, Giunta de' Poveri, Degli Allodiali, Del Lotto, Di Sicilia, Di Stato, Del Montiero, Proto Medicato, Azienda, Dé Preſidij, Udienza dell Eſercito, De Caſtelli, Di Marina, Zecca dé Peſi, &c.

Terra di Lavoro is governed by Sopra Intendenti, royal governors of towns, and judges.

The other provinces have preſidents, viz. Principato citra, Principato ultra, Baſilicata, Bari, Otranto, Abruzzo citra, Calabria citra, and Calabria ultra, have one each; Abruzzo ultra has two; and Capitanata and Moliſe one between them.

At Foggia is the tribunal Della Dogana.

Eccleſiaſtical government. Twenty-one archbiſhoprics, and one hundred and ten biſhoprics: of which, eight archbiſhoprics, and twenty biſhoprics, are in the King's gift; the reſt in the Pope's.

Arms. Azure, ſemée of fleur de luces, or; with a label of five points, gules.

Orders of Knighthood. Order of St. Januarius, biſhop and martyr,—inſtituted by Charles, now King of Spain, in 1738. The number of Knights not poſitively

fixed. They wear a red ribbon, and a ſtar on the left breaſt, with the image of the Saint in the centre; and the motto, *In Sanguine Fœdus*. The King confers the Croſs of the Conſtantinian Order, as Duke of Parma.

Ferdinand the Fourth, by the Grace of God, King of Both Sicilies, Jeruſalem, and Infant of Spain; Duke of Parma, Placentia, Caſtro, &c.; and hereditary Great Prince of Tuſcany, &c. &c. — Titles of the King.

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1. TERRA DI LAVORO;

anciently, Campania Fælix.

Derived from its fertility, or from the ancient *Campi Leborini*. — Name.

Azure, over 2 cornucopias; a crown, or. — Arms.

1,530,964 Moggie. — Extent.

In 1779, 1,210,989. — Inhabitants.

Garigliano, Voltorno, Saone, Clani, Sebeto. — Rivers.

Agnano, Averno, Fuſaro, Licola, Patria, Fondi. — Lakes.

Iſchia, Procida, Ponza, Ventotiene, S. Maria, Botte, Niſida. — Iſlands.

Naples, Baia, Gaeta. — Seaports.

Veſuvius, Epomeo, Camaldoli, Barbara, Nuovo, Tifata, Matteſe, St. Leo, St. Salvatore, Cecubo, Auroneo, Ofellio, Maſſico, Caſſino, Attico, Nivoſo, Cairo, Ceſino, Séli, Ortaſio, and Azo. — Mountains.

1. Naples capital, archbiſhopric.
2. Capua fortreſs, archbiſhopric. — Principal Places.

3. Biſhoprics. Sora; Aquino, reduced to a hamlet, the biſhop reſides at the united ſee of Pontecorvo; Fondi; Alife, the biſhop lives at Piedimonte; Venafro; Seſſa; Calvi; Teleſe, the biſhop reſides at Cerreto; Teano; Caiazzo; Gaeta, a fortreſs; Caſerta, the biſhop lives at Caſerta Nova, where the King has a palace; Averſa; Acerra; Nola; Pozzuoli; Iſchia; Carinola.

4. Monte

4. Monte Caſino, the head convent of the Order of St. Benedict.
5. Portici, St. Leuci, Cacciabella; royal reſidences.
6. Pompeii, Herculaneum, Cuma, Baiæ, Capua, Formiæ, Minturnæ, Sinueſſa; ruined cities.
7. Veſuvius, Solfatara; mountains emitting ſmoke or flame.

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2. PRINCIPATO CITRA; or,

Principality of Salerno, anciently inhabited by the Picentini and Lucani.

Name. In the year 851, the poſſeſſions of the Lombards were divided into two parts; one of which obeyed the Prince of Salerno; the other was ſubject to that of Benevento.

Arms. Party per feſs, argent and ſable; a ſailor's compaſs with 8 wings, argent; in chief, a mullet, or.

Extent. 1,175,994 Moggie.

Inhabitants. 447,465.

Rivers. Sarno, Sele, Battipaglia, Alento, Buſento, Calore, Bianeo, Negro, St. Gregorio.

Iſlands. Capri, li Galli, Piana di Lacoſa.

Seaports. Caſtelamare, Salerno.

Mountains. Toro, Canutario, Majano, Collo, Aquarro, Lattario, Sarno, St. Donato, Calpazzo, Lucano, Nero, Alburno, Civita, Calimarco, Cantena, Stella, Novi, Cavallara, Antillia, Bulgaria, Maddalena, Balzater, St. Onofrio, Aquila, Motulo, Cervati, Navarra, Petraro, Centaurino, Lagoroſſo.

Principal Places.
1. Salerno preſidency, archbiſhopric.
2. Amalfi, archbiſhopric.
3. Sorrento, archbiſhopric.

4. Biſhop-

4. Biſhoprics:—Nocera, Sarno, Vico, Maſſa, Capri, Cava, Lettere, Caſtelamare, Acerno, Campagna cum Satriano, Capaccio, Policaſtro, Scala cum Ravello, Minori, Marſico Novo.

5. Pæſtum, Stabia, Velia; ruined cities.

6. Perſano, Caſtelamare; royal ſeats.

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3. PRINCIPATO ULTRA; or,

Principality of Benevento.—Samnites, Hirpini.

Party per feſs, gules and argent; on the 1ſt, a crown. — Arms.

664,280 Moggie. — Extent.

250,136. — Inhabitants.

Calore, Sabato, Tamoro. — Rivers.

Virgine, Taburno, Sabletta, Agnone, Termolo, Guleto, Paſſagone, Irpino, Rumulo, Jarminio, Divoto, Voltore. — Mountains.

Anſanto. — Lake.

1. Benevento, archbiſhopric; belongs to the Pope. — Principal Places.

2. Conza, archbiſhopric.

3. Biſhoprics:—St. Agata de' Goti; St. Angelo de' Lombardi, cum Biſaccia; Ariano; Trevico, cum Vico della Baronia; Avellino, cum Frigento; Nuſeo; Montemarano; Lacedogna; Monteverde, united to Canne and Nazareth.

4. Montevergine, chief convent of the Verginian order.

5. Montefuſcolo, preſidency.

6. Eculanum, a ruined city.

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4. BASILICATA.

Lucania.

From the Greek Emperor Baſil II. — Name.

Barry wavy, of ſix, argent and azure; in chief, an eagle's head crowned, gules. — Arms.

Extent. 1,605,047 Moggie.

Inhabitants. 325,682.

Rivers. Bradano, Baſiento, Salandrella, Acri, Sinno.

Lakes. Lagonegro, Olmo.

Mountains. Caſale, Croce, Funicchio, Pomazzo, Muro, Acuto, Rivezzone, Fondone, Maruggio, St. Martino, Carraſo, Veſpe, Alpi, Raparo, Melaggioto, Sirino, St. Brancato, Noce Trecchina.

Principal Places. 1. Acerenza, archbiſhopric, united to Matera, where the preſidency is held.

2. Biſhoprics:—Melfi cum Rapolla, Montepeloſo, Tricarico, Potenza, Anglona cum Turſi, Venoſa, Muro.

3. Metapontum, Heraclea; ruined cities.

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5. CAPITANATA.

Apulia, Daunia, Frentani.

Name. A corruption of Catapanata (the diſtrict under the Catapan, or Greek viceroy).

Arms. Azure, on a mount, St. Michael, or.

Extent. 1,141,622 Moggie.

Inhabitants. 491,255.

Rivers. Biferno, Fortore, Candelaro, Carapelle, Ofanto, Cervaro.

Lakes. Leſina, Varano, Bataglia, St. Giovanni, Salpi.

Iſlands. St. Domino, St. Nicola, Caprara, Cretaccio, Mergoli.

Seaports. Manfredonia, Vieſti.

Mountains. Granato, Secco, Corvino, Pagano, Auro, Chilone, Bucculo, Liburno, Origine, Calvo, Sagro, Saracino, Barone, Condizzo.

Principal Places. 1. Manfredonia, archbiſhopric.

2. Biſhoprics:—Lucera, preſidency; Vieſti, San Severo, Larino, Troja, Termoli, Bovino, Volturara cum Monte Corvino, Aſcoli.

3. Foggia, tribunal for duties on cattle.

4. Boſco

4. Boſco di Bovino, royal ſeat.
5. Monte St. Angelo di Gargano, a pilgrimage.
6. Sipontum, Arpi, Salapia, Herdonia; ruined cities.

6. COUNTY OF MOLISE.

Samnium and Pentri.

From a caſtle. — Name.

Gules within a garland of ears of corn, or; a bearded comet, argent. — Arms.

484,898 Moggie. — Extent.

Included in the enumeration of Capitanata. — Inhabitants.

Biferno, Fortore, Trigno. — Rivers.

Sangra, Jänipro, Vallone, Rotaro, Biferno, Caprara, Biſano, Albano. — Mountains.

1. Biſhoprics:—Bojano, the prelate reſides at Campobaſſo; Guardia, Alfiera, Iſernia, Trivento. — Principal Places.

2. Campobaſſo, chief place of the county; Moliſe, a burgh, from whence the county takes its name.

7. TERRA DI BARI.

Apulia, Peucetia, and Pædiculi.

From the principal city. — Name.

Party per ſaltire, azure and argent; over all, a crozier, or. — Arms.

869,097 Moggie. — Extent.

281,048. — Inhabitants.

Ofanto, Cane. — Rivers.

Seaports. Barletta, Trani, Bari, Molfetta.

Mountains. Sanazzo, Femina Morta, Lupulo, Franco, St. Agoſtino.

Principal Places.
1. Bari, archbiſhopric.
2. Trani, archbiſhopric and preſidency.
3. Barletta, reſidence of the archbiſhop of Nazareth.
4. Biſhoprics:—Andria, Biſceglia, Ruvo, Bitonto, Monopoli, Gravina, Giovenazzo cum Terlizzi, Bitetto, Converſano, Molfetta, Polignano (the biſhop's reſidence is at Mola), Minervino.
5. Egnatia and Canne, ruined cities.

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8. TERRA DI OTRANTO.

Meſſapia or Japigia, Calabria, Salentini.

Arms. Paly of 8, gules and or; over all a dolphin, with a creſcent in his mouth, proper.

Extent. 1,377,102 Moggie.

Inhabitants. 290,915.

Rivers. Bradano, Patimiſco, Lieto, Chiatano, Tara, Galeſo, Hidro.

Lake. Limina.

Seaports. Brindiſi, Otranto, Taranto.

Mountains. Hidro, Scotano.

Iſlands. St. Andrea, St. Pelagia, Iſola de Brindiſi.

Principal Places.
1. Taranto, archbiſhopric.
2. Brindiſi, archbiſhopric.
3. Otranto, archbiſhopric.
4. Biſhoprics:—Lecce, preſidency; Caſtellaneta, Gallipoli, Motula, Ugento, Caſtro, Nardo, Oria, Oſtuni, Aleſſano.
5. Manduriæ, Dupiæ, Rudii, Salentum; ruined cities.

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9. CALABRIA CITRA.

Lucania and Brutium.

Given by the Greek Emperors, to perpetuate the memory of ancient Calabria, which they had loſt. Name.

Argent, a croſs potent, ſable. Arms.

1,605,463 Moggie. Extent.

315,330. Inhabitants.

Calandro, Cerſhiara, Raccanello, Coſcile, Crati, Eſaro, Moccono, Lucino, Celano, Celenito, Trionto, Fimarello, Aquanile, Fiomenica, Lipuda, Nieto, Savuto, Cleta, Solio, Bato, Lao. Rivers.

Mauro, Provizia, Pollino, Ciliſterno, Malaſpina, Saſſo, Caritore, Muta, Ifauro, Coruzzo, Calaſerna, Gigante, Macalla, Bovi, Scaccia Diavolo, Fumiero, Negro, del Calabreſe, Patiati, Caperoſa, Januario, Goliero, Porcina, Ilia. Mountains.

1. Cofenza, archbiſhopric and preſidency. Principal Places.

2. Roſſano, archbiſhopric.

3. Biſhoprics :—Cariati cum Gerenza, Martorano, St. Marco, Biſignano, Umbriatico, Strongoli, Caſſano.

4. Sibaris, Pandoſia, Petilia ; ruined cities.

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10. CALABRIA ULTRA.

Brutium.

Gironnee of 4; 1 and 4 Aragon ; 2 and 3 argent ; a croſs potent, ſable. Arms.

1,901,878 Moggie. Extent.

460,392. Inhabitants.

Nieto, Eſaro, Pilaca, Dragone, Tacina, Naſcaro, Acone, Litrello, Alli, Corace, Alleſi, Beltrana, Ancinale, Alaca, Calipari, Bruda, Rivers.

Pacanito,

Pacanito, Aſſa, Stilaro, Alaro, Calamizzi, Locano, Novito, Merico, Ciamuti, Bova, Alice, Gallico, Allecio, Sfalaſſa, Metauro, Metramo, Meſima, Angitola, Amato.

Seaports. Cotrone, Reggio.

Mountains. Aſpro, Zefirio, Pittaro, Sagittario, Sacro, Eſope, Caulone, Sagra, Jeio, Clibano, la Sibilla, Corvaro, Nerbo, Ordica, Pettinella.

Principal Places.
1. Reggio, archbiſhopric.
2. Santa Severina, archbiſhopric.
3. Biſhoprics:—Catanzara cum Taverna, preſidency; Belcaſtro, Iſola, Bova, Oppido, Nicotera, Tropea, Gerace, Squillacce cum Stilo, Mileto, Cotrone, Nicaſtro.
4. Locri, Hippona, Terina, Caulon, Croton; ruined cities.

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11. ABRUZZO CITRA.

Samnium, Peligni, Marrucini, Frentani, Caraceni.

Name. From the city of Aprutium, the Prætutii, or the aſperity of the country.

Arms. Or, a boar's head with a yoke, gules.

Extent. 917,052 Moggie.

Inhabitants. 232,256.

Seaport. Ortona.

Rivers. Peſcara, Lenta, Foro, Moro, Feltrino, Sangro, Sente, Aſinella, Trigno, Merola.

Mountains. St. Nicolà, Majella, Cavallo, Erminio, Prata, Morone, Argatone, Longo, Schienaforte, Marſo, Caraccio, Capraro, Sorbo, Scoſſoſo, Pallana, Policorno.

Principal Places.
1. Chieti, archbiſhopric and preſidency.
2. Lanciano, archbiſhopric.
3. Biſhoprics:—Sulmona cum Valve, Ortona cum Campli.
4. Corfinium, ruined city.

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12. ABRUZZO ULTRA.

Marſi, Veſtini, Prætutii.

Azure, an eagle diſplayed, or, on 3 hills, vert. — Arms.

1,311,476 Moggie. — Extent.

345,825. — Inhabitants.

Tronto, Librata, Salinello, Trontino, Vomana, Piomba, Salino, Peſcara, Salto, Velino. — Rivers.

Celano. — Lakes.

Velino, Elvino, Fiore, Corno, Pietra Fiorita, Pietra Solida, Candido, Nitella, Pietra Gentile, Calvo, Caroſa, Peſchiolo, Saſſuolo, Gurguri, Roſetta, Moſcie, Seno, Luco, Corbaro, Ducheſſa, Accerella, Carbonara, Grottolo, Turchio, Lampallo. — Mountains.

1. Biſhoprics:—Aquila, preſidency; Teramo, preſidency; Peſcina, reſidence of the biſhop of the Marſi; Civita Ducale; Atri cum Penne. — Principal Places.

2. Amiterno, Aveia; ruined cities.

OF NAPLES.

12. ABRUZZO ULTRA.

Marsi, Pelini, Praetutii.

Arms. Azure, an eagle displayed, or, on 3 hills, vert.

Extent. 1 3 1 ayo Maggio.

Inhabitants. 243,915.

Rivers. Tronto, Labrata, Salinello, Trontino, Vomana, Piomba, Salino, Pescara, Sabo, Velino.

Lakes. Cerano.

Mountains. Velino, Elvino, Flore, Corno, Pietra Fiorita, Pietra Solida, Candido, Nitella, Pietra Gentile, Calvo, Carosa, Peschiolo, Sassuolo, Gurguri, Rosetta, Mosche, Seno, Luco, Corbaro, Duchessa, Accerella, Carbonara, Grottolo, Turchio, Lampallo.

Principal Places. 1. Bishoprics:—Aquila, presidency; Teramo, presidency; Pescina, residence of the bishop of the Marsi; Civita Ducale; Atri cum Penne.

2. Amiterno, Aquila; ruined cities.

A

SHORT SKETCH

OF THE

HISTORY

OF THE

KINGDOM OF NAPLES.

I.

THIS Country has been celebrated from the earlieſt dawn of Grecian literature, and illuſtrated by many achievements of gods and heroes: ſome authors even lay the ſcene of the Giants' War in Campania, and prove their aſſertion by the fable of the Titans, who were buried under the neighbouring iſlands. As it is not likely that theſe ſtories ſhould have originated entirely in the imagination of the poets, we may reaſonably ſuppoſe ſome hiſtorical event afforded a canvas for them to work upon; and the moſt natural conjecture is, that the firſt adventurers, on their

landing in Italy, met with a vigorous oppoſition from men of an extraordinary ſtature. From their taking refuge in ſulphureous vallies and gloomy caverns, among burning mountains, the diſcoverers called them ſons of the earth, and their abodes the mouths of hell.

All accounts of theſe primordial inhabitants are extremely imperfect; moſt probably the invaders drove them into the inland mountainous regions, where they became the parents of the Lucanians and other warlike nations.

Greeks. Divers tribes of Greeks planted colonies along the ſhores of the Adriatic and Mediterranean ſeas. Diomed is ſaid to have founded Arpi, and Idomeneus Salentum, immediately after the Trojan war; and ſo many Greek ſettlements were made in the ſouthern part of Italy, that it acquired the name of Magna Græcia.

Theſe commonwealths experienced a variety of fortunes; ſometimes they gave law to the people of the midland countries, at others were obliged to receive it from them. Alexander, king of the Moloſſians, paſſed over into Italy to ſupport the cauſe of his countrymen; but, after a few brilliant campaigns, loſt his life in a battle againſt the Lucanians. Not long after, the Bruttians, a people ſprung from a ſet of outlaws, carried all before them, and gave their name to the province which is now called Farther Calabria. At length Rome turned her ambitious eye towards this extremity of the peninſula: in vain did the Bruttians reſiſt her arms with obſtinate valour; in vain did

Pyrrhus

Pyrrhus from Epirus, and Hannibal from Carthage, check her progreſs at different periods; in the courſe of a few years, the fortunes of Rome prevailed over all oppoſition, and theſe countries ſubmitted to the yoke of bondage with the reſt of Italy. Romans.

II.

As the Romans divided this diſtrict according to the various nations that compoſed it, the forms of government were as different as its inhabitants; ſome cities were made colonies, others ruled by magiſtrates ſent from Rome, and a few indulged with their old republican conſtitution, ſubject to a tributary acknowledgment; but, ſooner or later, the mode of deputing governors from the Capital was univerſally adopted.

Hadrian made a great change in the diſtribution; and, having divided Italy into provinces, formed four of them out of the preſent kingdom of Naples.

Some alterations took place under Conſtantine, but none very material.

After enjoying longer and greater tranquillity than any other department of the Roman empire, this country was over-run by the Viſigoths, in the reign of Honorius. Upon the retreat of the invaders, who made no ſettlement here, theſe provinces were found to have ſuffered ſo exceſſively from the devaſtation, that it became neceſſary to remit their uſual tribute. They had ſcarce recovered their loſſes, when After Chriſt 400.

Genſeric the Vandal laid them waſte, and deſtroyed many of their moſt flouriſhing cities.

III.

The final diſſolution of the Roman empire now drew near, and the convulſions that ſhook it, in the laſt moments of its exiſtence in the Weſt, were too violent not to be ſeverely felt in parts ſo near the centre. They accordingly ſhared largely in the common calamity.

Goths. The long proſperous reign of Theodoric, the Oſtrogoth, allowed ſome reſpite to their miſery, and was a period of happineſs in the annals of Italy. After many viciſſitudes of fortune, the Gothic ſceptre was broken at the battle
553. of Nocera; and Naples, with the adjacent provinces, returned to the obedience of the emperors of Conſtantinople.

IV.

Lower Greek Empire. In the courſe of the century that followed the deſtruction of the Goths, a very material change took place in political nomenclature, the ſource of many modern names and ſubdiviſions of countries. In ſome degree, the foundation of the feudal ſyſtem was laid by Longinus the Exarch, who, after aboliſhing the dignity of Conſulars and Preſidents, appointed in each city a Duke, and in every caſtle a Warden.

V. In

V.

In 558, the eunuch Narſes, a diſcontented general of the Emperor Juſtin, invited the Lombards into Italy, where they made themſelves maſters of thoſe rich plains, to which they gave their own name. They did not penetrate into the Neapolitan ſtate till the year 589, when their king Autharis marched down the heart of the country, as far as Rhegium, and founded the duchy of Beneventum. The reaſon of his making his invaſion along the range of mountains that divides Italy into two parts, was, the invincible averſion his nation at all times betrayed for maritime enterprizes. Lombards.

The Dukes of Beneventum became formidable potentates, and extended their dominion over all the ſouthern provinces, except a few ſea-ports, that remained faithful to the Greek Emperor, and governed themſelves like commonwealths, under his protection. Beneventum ſurvived the downfal of the Lombards in 774, when their monarchy was annihilated by Charlemagne; and two hundred and twenty-eight years after that event, princes of Lombard blood were ſtill ſeated on the thrones of Capua, Salerno, and Benevento: But Puglia and Calabria obeyed the mandates of the Emperor of Greece.

VI.

About the beginning of the eleventh century, forty Norman gentlemen, returning from the Holy Land, a pilgrimage 1002. Normans.

pilgrimage then coming into faſhion, ſtopped at Salerno, where they were received with great hoſpitality by Guaimar, a prince of the Lombard line. During their ſtay at his court, a fleet of Saracens appeared off the harbour, and ſent in a threatening meſſage, to intimate that, unleſs they were immediately ſupplied with a large ſum of money, they would land, ſack the city, and lay the territory waſte, as they had often done before. Theſe Mahometan rovers were at that time the ſcourge of Italy: from ſtrong ſettlements, formed by them on the river Garigliano, and in Sicily, they were wont to iſſue forth, in powerful fleets, to pillage and lay under contribution all the maritime places of a country too little united, and conſequently too weak to make a proper reſiſtance. Guaimar, conſcious of his inability to repel them, ſet about collecting the ranſom; and the pirates landed on the beach, where they abandoned themſelves to every ſpecies of riotous intemperance. The Normans, unaccuſtomed to behold ſuch inſults tamely ſubmitted to, and eſteeming it an eternal ſtain upon their honour, daſtardly to ſtand by, and ſee their benefactors plundered by a ſet of ruffians, ſnatched up their arms, ruſhed out of the gates, and fell upon the Infidels with ſuch impetuoſity, that they put the greateſt part of them to the ſword; the remainder fled to their ſhips, cut their cables, and immediately ran out to ſea.

The grateful Salernitans would gladly have detained their gallant deliverers in Italy, but perceiving them bent upon returning

returning to their native country, diſmiſſed them loaded with valuable preſents.

The ſight of theſe treaſures, and the rapturous deſcription given by the travellers of the Italian climate, excited the cupidity of other Normans, and tempted many to ſteer their courſe that way, in ſearch of fortune. Ranulph headed the firſt emigration; and, having rendered many ſignal ſervices to the Greek and Lombard princes, was allowed, for his recompence, to build and fortify Averſa, a ſmall town in Campagna. This was the firſt ſettlement his nation made in theſe provinces, and ſerved for many years as a rendezvous and refuge for the Normans on every emergency.

After him came the ſons of Tancred of Hauteville, who in military renown left all their countrymen far behind them. Invincible wherever they lent their aid, and terrible to the effeminate Greeks and Italians, they were careſſed and ſought after by the petty ſovereigns, whoſe diſſentions then diſtracted this country. Maniaces, generaliſſimo of the Grecian forces, courted their friendſhip, and engaged them to aſſiſt him in the invaſion of Sicily, at that time in the hands of the Saracens. With their help he obtained a complete victory over the Muſſulmen, and might have atchieved the conqueſt of the iſland, had he checked his national avarice and perfidy; but, while the Normans were intent upon the purſuit of the routed enemy, the Greek ſeized on all the ſpoil, and divided it among his own idle

ſoldiers, without reſerving any ſhare for thoſe who had earned it at the hazard of their lives. The Normans ſent Ardwin to expoſtulate with him on the injuſtice of his mode of proceeding; but the meſſenger met with moſt ignominious treatment from him, was whipped round the camp, and ſent back bleeding to his friends. At the ſight of his wounds, the adventurers were worked up to a pitch of madneſs, and with loud cries were about to ruſh upon the Greeks, when Ardwin, whoſe deep-rooted reſentment diſdained a tranſient revenge, curbed this violence, and having explained his projects to their chiefs, perſuaded them to withdraw ſecretly acroſs the Faro of Meſſina. They were no ſooner landed in Calabria, than they attacked the principal cities and caſtles of the Imperial province. In order to purſue their plan with regularity, they elected a chief, and united into one compact confederation. Their firſt leaders were of Lombard extraction, but they afterwards placed themſelves under the direction of William Fierabras, the eldeſt of Tancred's ſons.

After his death, they were governed ſucceſſively by his brothers Dreux and Humphrey, who extended the Norman dominions very conſiderably; but the great founder of this dynaſty was Robert, the fourth brother, ſurnamed Guiſcard, or Wiſcard, from his great ſkill and cunning. His conqueſts were rapid, and conducted with judgment; nor was his policy in the cabinet inferior to his valour in the field.

VII.

To Robert, Pope Nicholas II. granted what it is hard to prove he had any right to diſpoſe of, viz. the title of Duke of Puglia, with the perpetual ſovereignty of that country; and alſo of Sicily, if he could conquer it. The truth is, theſe princes ſtood ſo much in need of each other's aſſiſtance, to enable them to reſiſt the power of the Emperors, that it is no wonder they endeavoured to ſecure their mutual attachment by ſo many reciprocal conceſſions. Robert, who could not divine the fatal conſequences his treaty was to have in future times, promiſed to the See of Rome an obedience and homage, which he had no intention of paying any longer than it might ſuit the ſituation of his affairs: and Nicholas found no difficulty in granting inveſtitures of countries he had never been in poſſeſſion of, and which he knew muſt fall into the hands of the Normans, whether he oppoſed or authoriſed their uſurpation. Emboldened by the papal ſanction, Robert and his younger brother Roger invaded Sicily, expelled the Saracens, and ſoon after completed the conqueſt of what is now called the kingdom of Naples. A family quarrel * with the Emperor of Conſtantinople opened a new ſcene of action for Guiſcard's reſtleſs ſpirit. After repeated victories, he penetrated into the very

Robert, firſt Duke 1059.

* His daughter Helen, married to Conſtantine, ſon of the emperor Michael Ducas VII., had been ſent back, and her huſband ſhut up in a convent, by Nicephorus III.

heart of Greece, and threatened the throne of the eaſtern Cæſars with immediate deſtruction, when he was ſuddenly recalled to Italy by the danger of his friend the Pope. Robert flew to Rome, defeated and drove away the Emperor Henry IV., by whom the Pontiff had been reduced to the utmoſt diſtreſs, and having ſecured his ally from future inſults, reſumed his favourite ſcheme of ſubduing Greece; but there, in the height of his moſt promiſing
1085. ſucceſs, his glorious career was cut ſhort by a malignant fever.

Roger. Roger, his ſon by a ſecond wife, ſucceeded to his dominions, notwithſtanding the claims of Bohemund, the offſpring of a former marriage, who, finding himſelf unequal to a conteſt with his brother, ſupported by his uncle Roger earl of Sicily, accepted of the terms they offered. It was not long before an accident furniſhed him with an opportunity of being revenged of them both.

The city of Amalfi having taken advantage of the diſſentions among the Normans, and attempted to recover its ancient independence, was inveſted by the joint forces of the three princes. To this ſiege came Peter the Hermit, to preach the firſt cruſado, armed with papal benedictions, fired with zeal, and endowed with that eccleſiaſtical unction, and all-perſuaſive eloquence, which men, even in the moſt enlightened ages, are ſeldom able to withſtand. At that barbarous æra, ſuch a preacher was irreſiſtible; his call was liſtened to, his predictions believed, his croſſes

ſeized with eagerneſs. Bohemund, whether hurried away by the phrenzy of devotion and enterprize, or ſeduced by the deſire of revenge, ſeconded the endeavours of the enthuſiaſt, and, at the head of the flower of the army, marched off for Paleſtine, leaving his two relations before the walls, with ſcarce a ſufficient force to ſecure their retreat.

Roger was ſucceeded by his ſon William, on whoſe demiſe without iſſue, all the Norman poſſeſſions in the two Sicilies devolved upon his couſin Roger, ſon of the firſt earl of Sicily aforementioned. William. 1127.

VIII.

This prince, diſdaining the ſtyle of Duke, which he thought inadequate to the preſent fortunes of his houſe, aſſumed the title of King. The Pope, alarmed at the rapid progreſs of the Normans, and apprehenſive of their proving an obſtacle to his own private views of aggrandiſement, called in the aſſiſtance of the emperor Lotharius, in order to check a power, which, if timely oppoſition were not made, might endanger the liberties of Italy. Lotharius marched a formidable army into the new-erected kingdom, and carried all before him; while Roger wiſely retired from the ſtorm, to collect his ſtrength. The fury of the invaders was ſoon ſpent, and they waſted away with inaction and malady. The King haraſſed them in their retreat, recovered every poſt, drove the Germans out of the kingdom, Roger, firſt King.

and having taken Pope Innocent II. priſoner, forced him to recognize his title, and grant him inveſtiture.

Roger then deſtroyed the ſhadow of independence which ſtill exiſted in ſome maritime cities, invaded Africa, conquered Tunis, and afterwards made a ſucceſsful invaſion into Greece. He did not, however, confine his ambition to military renown, but was alſo attentive to the internal
1154. adminiſtration of affairs; and at his death left every department of government in ſo flouriſhing a ſtate, that, as far as the feeble wiſdom of man could foreſee, he had juſt cauſe to hope that his throne was fixed upon a moſt immoveable baſis. The conſequence of ſupine negligence in his ſucceſſor ſhewed how fallacious are all human projects, and how eaſy it is for miſmanagement to overſet the beſt concerted plans.

William I. The ſecond King was Roger's ſon William, an unhappy prince, though little moleſted by foreign enemies. Indolence gave him up a willing prey to wicked miniſters; but whenever he was rouſed to action by attacks from abroad, the ſpirit of his anceſtors roſe within him, and he repelled every hoſtile aſſault with the courage of a Guiſcard. The Pope and the Emperor preſſed at one time very hard upon him, but he baffled all their attempts: had he been as ſucceſsful at home, his reign would make a very different figure in the Sicilian chronicles from what it now does. Majone, his favourite, governed the nation in ſo oppreſſive a manner, that he provoked the barons to conſpire againſt him.

him. They murdered the miniſter, impriſoned the monarch, and placed the crown on the head of his infant ſon. This unfortunate child being killed by a random arrow, the courage of the rebels ſunk, William regained the ſceptre, glutted his revenge with the blood of the conſpirators, and paſſed the remainder of his days in melancholy peace. Depreſt with misfortunes, ſick of ambition, deſtitute of friends, and incapable of any laudable occupation, he arrived at length at ſuch a pitch of apathy, as to forbid his attendants to inform him of any circumſtance that might diſturb his quiet. The conſequences were, that, under the ſanction of his authority, his officers exerciſed the moſt brutal tyranny with impunity; and William deſcended to the grave, deteſted by all good men, and branded for ever with the odious appellation of the Bad. 1167.

The factions among the great vaſſals diſturbed the firſt years of his ſon William's reign; but when he grew up to manhood, all theſe turbulencies ſubſided. A mild, prudent, and equitable adminiſtration, added to the merit of boundleſs munificence to the church, and unſhaken attachment to the See of Rome, procured for him the ineſtimable ſurname of the Good. The greateſt proof that can be given how well he deſerved this honourable epithet, is the deſire which the Sicilians expreſſed, in all ſubſequent quarrels with their ſovereigns, of having things put upon the ſame footing, and the laws exerciſed with the ſame impartiality, as they were in the days of Good King William. Not having William II.

any

any heirs of his body, and being desirous of preventing a civil war, he gave his aunt Constance, a posthumous child of King Roger, in marriage to Henry of Swabia, king of the Romans; and soon after died, having reigned twenty-three years in such profound peace and tranquillity, that historians, who delight more in tumultuous and bloody scenes, have neglected to transmit to us any particulars of
1189. the last ten years of his reign*.

Tancred. When this good king died, his appointed successors were absent, and the Sicilians, in defiance of the allegiance they had sworn to them, called to the throne Tancred earl of Lecce, natural son of Roger, elder brother of William I. This reign was short and turbulent; but the Germans would in all probability have been completely excluded, had Tancred, who was an excellent and valiant prince, lived long enough to settle himself on the slippery seat. Excessive grief for the loss of an accomplished and favourite son, on whom he had rested every fond hope of future joy and
1192. greatness, brought this affectionate parent to an untimely grave, and blasted at once all the budding fortunes of his family.

William III. William, his surviving son, was too young and weak to resist the power of Henry, now become emperor, and assisted by the fickle barons. The unhappy youth was

* Montagne says, 'Les bons historiens fuyent comme une eau dormante 'et mer morte des narrations calmes pour regaigner les séditions, les 'guerres, où ils sçavent que nous les appellons.'

obliged

obliged to ſurrender himſelf to his rival, who, contrary to his plighted faith, deprived him of liberty, ſight, and manhood. 1194.

IX.

Swabians. Henry and Conſtantia.

Henry, who was a monſter of cruelty, put to death every adherent of Tancred's, not even ſparing the traitors, who had deſerted William to join the Imperial ſtandard. His mean brutality led him to dig up the body of Tancred, and expoſe it to the birds of prey. Sicily was laid waſte, her churches plundered, her wealth tranſported into foreign countries, and her ſtreets ſtained with the blood of her moſt diſtinguiſhed citizens. But now the Sicilians perceiving that the Emperor was bent upon exterminating the whole Norman race, ruſhed to arms. An univerſal rebellion broke out, at the head of which appeared Conſtantia herſelf, unable any longer to bear with the inhumanity of her huſband. Henry was driven out of the iſland, and forced to ſubſcribe to the moſt humiliating terms of pacification. He did not long ſurvive his diſgrace; and the Empreſs died ſoon after, leaving the crown to Frederick, their only ſon, an infant. 1198.

Frederick I. II. as Emperor.

A moſt diſorderly minority enſued; but by the good management of Pope Innocent III., who ruled as regent and guardian to the young king, his dominions were preſerved entire: and, as ſoon as he came of age, Frederick obtained the Imperial diadem by the influence of his kind tutor.

tutor. This cordiality between the two powers was but of ſhort duration; and their ſubſequent animoſity was violent in proportion to the warmth of their former attachment. During a long courſe of years, they perſecuted each other with unremitting malevolence: theſe diſſentions embittered the beſt part of the Emperor's life, and laid a foundation for troubles and inteſtine commotions, which at length brought the houſe of Swabia to utter deſtruction. In hopes of pacifying the pontiff, Frederick embarked for the Holy Wars; but ſcarce had he ſet foot in Paleſtine, when news was brought him that Gregory IX. had debauched many of the barons from their allegiance, and invaded the kingdom of Naples. The Emperor immediately patched up a peace with the Infidels, and returned to Italy. Surrounded by domeſtic enemies, peſtered with papal anathemas, and worn
1250. out in counteracting their machinations, Frederick expired, not without ſome ſuſpicion of poiſon, ſaid to have been adminiſtered by his natural ſon Manfred; but no ſatisfactory reaſons have been given for ſuſpecting him of this parricide.

Conrad. As ſoon as the Emperor's death was known, the Pope renewed his attack, expecting to find the kingdom a defenceleſs prey; but the ſudden appearance of Conrad, ſon and heir of Frederick, overturned his projects. This young Emperor cruſhed the inſurgents, ſtormed Naples, and exerciſed great cruelty upon his opponents. He
1254. reigned only four years; and his death is alſo aſcribed,

by

by the eccleſiaſtical writers, to their capital enemy Manfred.

Conradine, the only ſon of Conrad, being abſent in Germany at the time of his father's death, the pope ſeized upon the kingdom; but Manfred, as regent, diſpoſſeſſed him, and, a report being ſpread of Conradine's death, aſſumed the reins of government in his own name. The Roman pontiffs, finding themſelves foiled in their military attacks by the ſuperior ſkill of their adverſary, and their ſpiritual thunderbolts of little avail againſt an enemy that ſcreened himſelf behind the ſhield of incredulity, took another method, and offered the crown of Sicily to any prince that would drive out the preſent excommunicated poſſeſſor. The firſt that was found able to put this plan in execution was Charles of Anjou, brother to Lewis the Ninth king of France. He accepted the offer, whether ſolely urged by his own ambition, or puſhed on by the vanity of his wife, who longed to be a queen as well as her ſiſters *. He penetrated into the kingdom, and gained a deciſive victory, at Benevento, over Manfred, who fell in the field of battle. Conſtance, daughter of this unfortunate prince, married Peter king of Aragon †. 1266.

Manfred.

* The daughters of Raymund, Earl of Provence, were Margaret, married to Lewis IX. King of France; Eleanor, to Henry III. King of England; Sancha, to Richard Earl of Cornwall, and King of the Romans; and Beatrix, to Charles Earl of Anjou.

† It is remarkable, that their preſent Sicilian Majeſties are both deſcended by Conſtantia from the heroic houſe of Swabia

X.

Angevines. Charles the First.

Charles no ſooner thought himſelf firmly ſeated on his new throne, than he gave a looſe to his natural temper, and ruled his ſubjects with a rod of iron. This uſage provoked them to invite Conradine to the inheritance of his anceſtors, but their good intentions ſerved only to complete the ruin of the Swabian family. The unfortunate youth was defeated, betrayed, taken priſoner, and beheaded. His death did not, however, remain long unrevenged: Charles and his Frenchmen rendered their yoke ſo galling to the Sicilians, whoſe honour, property, and lives were become the ſport of the licentious conquerors, that on Eaſter Tueſday, in the year 1282, the people of Palermo raiſed the ſtandard of revolt. The whole iſland followed the example of the capital, and a general maſſacre enſued, in which every Frenchman but one * was put to the ſword without mercy: an event known in hiſtory by the name of the Sicilian Veſpers. The inſurgents offered the crown to Peter of Aragon; a long war enſued, in the courſe of which Charles met with nothing but misfortunes, and died
1285. of a broken heart.

Charles II. Charles, his eldeſt ſon, was actually a priſoner at the time of his father's death: having recovered his liberty, and made many ineffectual attempts to drive the Aragoneſe out of Sicily, he concluded a peace with them, and, being

* William Porcelet, whoſe life was ſpared in conſideration of his virtue and juſtice.

a good

a good and moderate man, turned his whole attention towards the welfare and improvement of his kingdom of Naples. 1309.

He was ſucceeded by his ſecond ſon Robert, though Charles Martel, king of Hungary, who was the eldeſt, and died before his father, had left children. Charibert, king of Hungary, put in his claim, upon which it was agreed by both parties, to ſubmit to the umpirage of the Pope. The papal decree confirmed Robert in the poſſeſſion. He has been accuſed of having poiſoned his brother, in order to pave his way to the throne. Robert.

Being little moleſted by external enemies, his long reign was glorious and fortunate, as far as foreign affairs were concerned; but, in the circle of his own family, he was completely wretched. He had outlived his only ſon, and, with a view of preventing diſputes about the ſucceſſion, had given his grand-daughter and heireſs Joan in marriage to Andrew of Hungary, a worthleſs prince, with whom ſhe was likely to be very miſerable. The foreſight of approaching diſaſters oppreſſed his aged ſpirit, and haſtened his diſſolution. 1343.

Andrew ſoon became ſo hateful to his queen and her ſubjects, that a conſpiracy was formed to take away his life: the murder was committed at Averſa. Modern authors pretend, that his wife was not privy to it; but I do not think their proofs ſufficient to refute the arguments of thoſe cotemporaries that lay it to her charge. Her widow- Joan the Firſt.

hood was ſhort: Lewis of Taranto, of the blood royal, a prince endowed with many good qualities, was her ſecond huſband. He and Joan were obliged ſoon after to fly before the king of Hungary, who invaded Naples, to revenge his brother's murder, and put ſeveral nobles to death on that account. The Hungarian being recalled by domeſtic tumults to his own dominions, Joan returned to Italy. Her third huſband was James of Aragon; and her fourth, Otho of Brunſwick. Being now far advanced in years, and paſt all hopes of having children, ſhe inſtituted her relation, Charles of Durazzo, her heir. This prince, jealous of the deſigns of Otho, doubtful of the queen's ſteadineſs, and impatient to be in poſſeſſion of the crown, aſſembled an army, attacked Naples, took the queen priſoner, and is ſuppoſed to have put an end to her exiſtence.

1382.

XI.

Durazzians. Charles III.

When Charles invaded her dominions, Joan had no commander of eminence to oppoſe to him: ſhe therefore called to her aid, and adopted, Lewis of Anjou, ſon to John, king of France; but he came too late to prove of any ſervice to his ill-fated benefactreſs. However, he ſecured to himſelf the quiet poſſeſſion of her French territories, and was in a fair way of conquering the Neapolitan ones, when he fell ſick and died.

Charles, though peaceable poſſeſſor of Naples, could not reſt ſatisfied with his good fortune, but liſtened to the

invitation of the Hungarian malcontents, who wiſhed to depoſe Mary, the only child of his old friend and protector, King Lewis. He agreed to their propoſals, went to Hungary, and was proclaimed king; but, not long after, the young queen's party recovered from their conſternation, and aſſaſſinated him in the palace. 1386.

The kingdom of Naples alone deſcended to his infant ſon Ladiſlaus, during whoſe non-age every thing was in perpetual ferment. On coming of age, he found the Angevines maſters of three-fourths of the realm; and to recover them out of their hands, required all his courage and good fortune. He afterwards took a leading part in the troubles of Italy, tyrannized over Rome, dictated to moſt of the petty potentates, and attempted to conquer Hungary. The pope, alarmed at his proſperity, called in Lewis the Second, of Anjou, who defeated the Durazzians at Ceparano, and, had he known how to make uſe of his victory, would have ruined their party beyond redemption; but, having loitered away his time, inſtead of purſuing his advantage, he gave his adverſary an opportunity of collecting freſh forces, and gaining ſuch a ſuperiority as was no longer to be reſiſted. Ladiſlaus, delivered from enemies at home, and an over-match for thoſe abroad, gave himſelf up to pleaſure, and ſhortened his days by exceſs of debauchery. Ladiſlaus. 1414.

His only ſiſter, Joan, ſucceeded him: a woman more noted for her laſciviouſneſs than any princeſs ſince Meſſalina, Joan the Second.

lina, without one virtue to balance her vices; a ſlave to luſt and vile favourites, her life was a continual round of riot, diſtreſs, and civil turmoils. At the age of forty-ſeven, and much againſt her will, the clamours of the people forced her to contract a ſecond marriage, and take to her bed the Count of La Marche, who aimed at abſolute dominion, and uſed her with great ſeverity. She plotted with Sforza, an adventurer, recovered the reins of government, and ſent her huſband back to France. Joan was ſcarce rid of this incumbrance, when another opponent ſtarted up. This was a third Lewis of Anjou, who carried on his attack with ſuch vigour, that the queen was under the neceſſity of applying for ſuccour to Alphonſus, king of Aragon and Sicily, whom ſhe adopted. No ſooner had the Spaniard deprived the Angevines of the power of giving her uneaſineſs, than the fickle old woman grew tired of her adopted ſon, revoked the deed of gift, and beſtowed the reverſion upon Lewis, her former antagoniſt. Alphonſus was driven out of the kingdom, and ſeemed to have laid aſide all thoughts of adding Naples to his here-
1435. ditary dominions, when the death of Joan and Lewis left the kingdom once more open to his attack; but it was not without a long ſtruggle, and much bloodſhed, that he achieved the conqueſt.

XII.

Aragoneſe. Alphonſus I.

The crowns of the two Sicilies being thus re-united upon one brow, theſe deſolated provinces were by degrees reſtored

ſtored to peace and opulence: bleſſings to which they had been long ſtrangers. This great prince died without legitimate iſſue, having ſurvived Joan twenty three years. Sicily and Aragon devolved to his brother John, king of Navarre; and Naples, by virtue of a previous agreement, fell to his natural ſon Ferdinand.

1458.

Ferdinand I.

The reign of Ferdinand the Firſt was long, but not happy, being diſturbed by two dangerous rebellions, which ſhook his throne to the centre, though he triumphed over them both. By every method, which victory and breach of faith could enable him to purſue, he exterminated the principal families engaged in thoſe revolts; but their ſpirit ſurvived, prepared, and enforced the blow that ſo ſuddenly and irreſiſtibly overwhelmed his ſucceſſor. Ferdinand, however, died in peace, and was ſucceeded by his ſon,

1494.

Alphonſus the Second.

Alphonſus the Second, a man of great military fame, but of a moſt ſanguinary temper, the inſtigator and actor of all the treacheries and cruelties that ſullied his father's annals. Chaſtiſement was not tardy in overtaking him; for he had ſcarce held the ſceptre a few months, before Charles the Eighth, king of France, as heir to the houſe of Anjou, marched to Naples at the head of a formidable army. On his approach, Alphonſus was ſtruck with ſuch a panic, that, forgetful of honour and intereſt, he abdicated his crown, left his ſon to make the beſt defence he

1495. could, and fled to Sicily, where he ſoon died of ſhame and deſpair.

Ferdinand the Second. Ferdinand the Second retired before the enemy, while Charles made his triumphal entry into the capital. This blaze of French glory was, like a wintry ſun, glaring and tranſitory. Charles returned to France, and Gonſalvo, the great Spaniſh captain, reinſtated Ferdinand in all his poſſeſſions. Unfortunately he did not live long enough to reſtore any degree of firmneſs to the tottering fortunes of
1496. his family.

Frederick the Second. Upon his deceaſe, his uncle Frederick ſucceeded: a learned good prince, and worthy of a better fate. He was overpowered by a confederacy entered into by Ferdinand the Catholic, king of Spain, and Lewis the Twelfth, king of France, to ſeize upon and divide the kingdom of Naples between them. The execution of the project was eaſy for two ſuch powerful monarchs; and Frederick, bereft of friends and hopes, ſurrendered up his perſon to Lewis, expecting better treatment at his hands, than at thoſe of his perfidious couſin of Aragon. But he had little reaſon to rejoice at the truſt he had repoſed in French generoſity; for he was confined the few remaining years of his life at
1504. Tours, while his wretched family was left to wander about the world hopeleſs and unbefriended.

XIII. The

XIII.

The unnatural compact between theſe kings could not long hold together, as fraud and violence were its foundation. Matters were ſoon embroiled, and war enſued; the French were expelled, and both ſhares irrecoverably ſecured to Ferdinand. At his death, Naples, with all his other dominions, paſſed to his grandſon

Ferdinand the Third.

1516.

XIV.

Charles of Auſtria, afterwards emperor of the Romans, the fifth of the name.

Auſtrians.
Charles the Fourth.
Fifth as Emperor.
1556.

During this, and every ſucceeding reign of the Auſtrian family, theſe kingdoms were governed by viceroys, and ſeldom honoured with the preſence of their ſovereign. The oppreſſions of the governors, the complaints of the people, and outrages of the barons; the depredations of the Turks, French, or banditti, were the only interruptions to the public peace, till the year 1647, when a famous inſurrection broke out. Maſaniello, the leader of the ſedition, ſtirred up the mob of Naples, on account of ſome duties laid upon fruit, drove the viceroy into the caſtle, and, for a few days, ſtrutted the dictator of the Neapolitan republic. On his being murdered, things returned quietly to their wonted channel. About this time, the duke of Guiſe came to Naples, and endeavoured to make himſelf

Philip king of Spain the Second.
1598.

Philip the Third.
1621.

Philip the Fourth.
1665.

king; but his enterprize failed for want of ſupport from France.

Charles the Second. 1700.

Thus fatigued with every diſquiet and inconvenience incident to a delegated adminiſtration, Naples continued to obey the Spaniards with a heavy heart, until the extinction of the Auſtrian line in 1700 opened a new field for litigation.

XV.

Bourbon. Philip the Fifth.

The great conteſt for the inheritance of Charles the Second changed the whole political ſyſtem of Italy. Naples, at firſt, was occupied by Philip of Bourbon; but, in 1706,

Auſtrians. Charles the Sixth.

was conquered by the Auſtrians, and at the peace of Utrecht, in 1713, confirmed to the emperor Charles the Sixth.

XVI.

Bourbon. Charles the Seventh.

In 1734, Elizabeth, ſecond wife of Philip the Fifth, king of Spain, being ambitious of procuring a ſettlement for her ſon Don Carlos, cauſed Spain to engage in a war with the emperor; the event of which was, that the Infant conquered Naples, and, by the treaty of peace, was left in full poſſeſſion, with the title of King of the Two Sicilies.

Ferdinand the Fourth.

In 1759, on the death of Ferdinand the Sixth of Spain, Charles ſucceeded to the Spaniſh crown, and reſigned his Sicilian dominions to his third ſon, Ferdinand the Fourth, now reigning. Philip, the eldeſt, was ſet aſide for idiotiſm;

iſm; and Charles, the ſecond, taken by his father to Madrid as prince of Aſturias, and heir apparent to the Spaniſh monarchy.

N. B. As any diſcuſſion of chronological doubts would have been abſurd in an abridgment of hiſtory, I have fixed all epochas at the moſt probable dates.

A

VOYAGE

FROM

MARSEILLES

TO

NAPLES,

1776.

SECTION I.

THE ſeaſon of the year being far advanced, and the Alps covered with ſnow, I thought it unadviſeable with a family to undertake a journey into Italy by land; and therefore, in company with S. T. G., hired a French polacre at Marſeilles, and embarked for Naples on the 17th of December 1776.

The getting under ſail was tedious, as the currents obliged us to tow out from buoy to buoy; but when once clear of the land, we went at a prodigious rate, before a

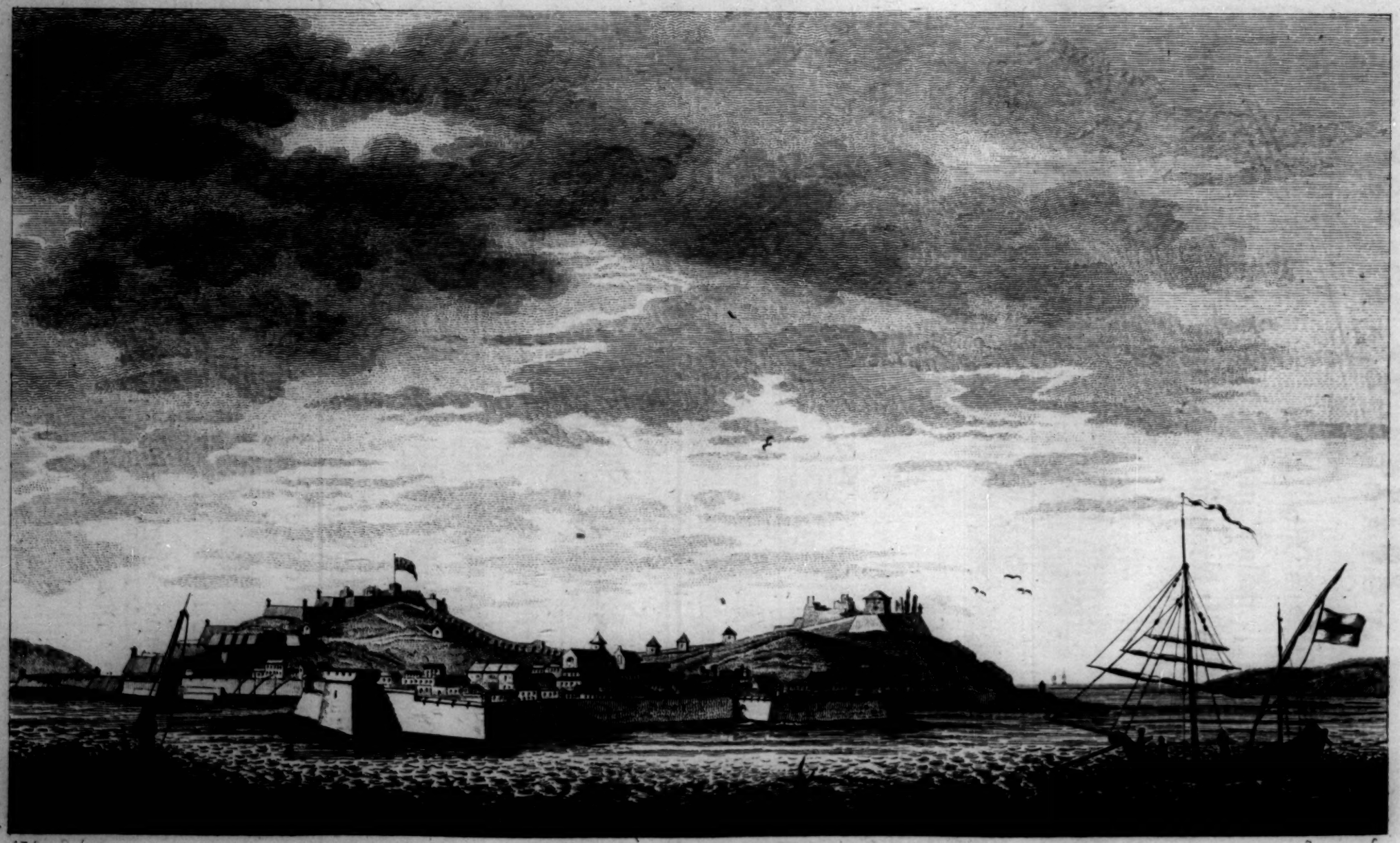
briſk

briſk north-weſt wind, which in the evening increaſed to a ſtorm.

All that night, and the enſuing day, the gale continued, and drove us on very faſt. As the ſea was rough, and the waves ſhort, the irregular jerks and toſſings of our ſhip kept us in perpetual alarms; but fortunately it was tight and well built. The Alps, immerſed in ſnow, appeared on the left hand, about four leagues off, riſing out of the waters to a wonderful height: the ſea ran ſo high, that we could diſcern nothing near their baſe. About ſun-ſet, we got under the ſhelter of Cape Corſo, the N. E. point of Corſica, and lay-to all night in ſtill water. By this delay, we loſt the opportunity of paſſing through the ſtraits of Piombino; for, before morning, the boiſterous MAESTRAL ſank into a very dull zephyr, which faintly brought us to the iſland of Elba, and there left us in a dead calm. We were towed into the harbour of Porto-Ferraio, where Monſ. de Langres, the governor, a native of Lorraine, received us with great politeneſs, and contributed every thing in his power to make our involuntary viſit to his port leſs irkſome.

The iſland of Elba, known to the Greeks by the name of Aithalia, and to the Romans by that of Ilva, has been renowned for its mines from a period beyond the reach of hiſtory. Ariſtotle ſpeaks of them as opened from time immemorial, and Virgil brings a ſuccour to Æneas of three hundred men from

Ilva,



H. Sw. del. G. Parrow Sc.

PORTO FERRAIO.

——————————Ilva,
Inſula inexhauſtis chalybum generoſa metallis*.

It lies about ten miles S. W. from Tuſcany, in latitude 42° 50′. Its figure is that of an equilateral triangle. Pliny gives it a circuit of an hundred miles. Late geographers allow only ſixty to its circumference; but, as no map has yet been made upon exact obſervations, and as the circuit would be much more conſiderable, if every creek and inlet were meaſured, perhaps the Roman menſuration may come nearer the truth than the modern one. The difference might even be accounted for by the encroachments of the ſea, and by the tumbling in of the rocks, which are, in many places, of a mouldering contexture.

Being extremely mountainous, Elba affords but ſcanty room for cultivation, and produces little more than ſix months proviſion of corn for its ſeven thouſand inhabitants. It is ſaid to have been peopled from Volterra, in very ancient times, the capital of Tuſcany, and perhaps of all Italy.

The property is at preſent divided between the Prince of Piombino, who poſſeſſes the largeſt ſhare; the King of Naples, to whom Porto-Longone belongs; and the Great Duke of Tuſcany, who is maſter of Porto-Ferraio.

The climate is much milder than that of the adjacent continent; for Elba produces many plants and fruits that cannot ſtand the Tuſcan winters.

* "Elba, an iſland rich in inexhauſtible mines of ſteel."

The ſouth-weſt part of the iſland is the moſt elevated, and conſiſts of lofty unfruitful mountains, compoſed of black and white granite ſuſceptible of a fine poliſh. In an old quarry, on the ſouth ſhore, may be ſeen ſeveral pillars and baſons roughly hewn, and left unfiniſhed. The columns of the cathedral of Piſa are ſaid to have been cut out of theſe rocks. Under this granite is a ſtratum of ſlate.

The N. E. and S. E. parts are chiefly argillaceous ſlate and iron-ſtone, with a quarry of grey marble, and ſome veins of ſerpentine. Amianthus is frequent among the ſhivery rocks. Near the N. E. point is the hill, or mine of iron ore, belonging to Rio, which ſupplies moſt of the forges of Italy. At the S. E. cape is the Monte della Calamita, ſo called from the loadſtone with which it abounds. This is the *magnes colore fuſco rubente* of the mineralogiſts, and appears to be a ferruginous ſubſtance that has paſſed through a very violent fire without vitrification. The efficient of magnetiſm ſtill remains in the unfathomed depths of nature's firſt cauſes. Monſ. de Buffon defines it, a conſtant effect of electricity produced by the interior heat, and the rotation of the globe; but if it depended on no other cauſe, we ſhould not experience ſuch variation in the compaſs. The beſt magnets in Elba are found near the ſea; but to come at ſtrong ones, the ground muſt be dug into: becauſe the air, or the rays of the ſun, eat out the force of thoſe that lie long expoſed to them on the ſurface. The earth, mixed with theſe ſtones, is full of

martial

martial particles, which ſtick to the pick-axe in the ſhape of little tufts of briſtles. The layer that ſupports the magnetic heaps is a blue whetſtone ſlate, with a ſmall mixture of calcareous ſtones. At the bottom of the mountain is found a bole, vulgarly named *white loadſtone*, not from any real attractive virtue, but from a roughneſs that cauſes the tongue to adhere to it. It was formerly much worn as a charm by lovers, and ſuppoſed to draw, with great force, the affections of the beloved object towards the wearer.

The ſoil of Elba is very ſhallow, with few places level enough for corn. The wine is good, if made with care, and properly kept; the fruit of its ſtandard trees is ſaid to be exquiſite; orange and lemon trees ſeem to thrive very well in the ſheltered vallies and narrow plains near the ſea.

About four thouſand tons of ſalt are made near Porto-Ferraio, which has likewiſe a tunny fiſhery, worth annually to the Grand Duke one thouſand three hundred pounds Sterling. The Prince of Piombino has another at Marciana, that clears one thouſand pounds per annum.

Porto-Ferraio * is a very pretty town, built on a ſhelving rock that cloſes in a large circular bay; the land all

* It was called Portus Argous from Argo, the ſhip of Jaſon, which the confuſed traditionary legend of the ancients brought out into the Mediterranean, that Medea might have an opportunity of communing with her ſiſter ſorcereſs Circé. Homer, in his Odyſſey, informs us, that, by the particular favour of Jove, this celebrated ſhip paſſed unhurt through the Straits of Scylla and Charybdis.

around is high and woody; the entrance of the bay wide, and eaſy to hit; but ſo open to the N. E. winds, that, when they blow with violence, there are few anchoring-places where a ſhip can ride in ſecurity. The ſtreets and fortifications riſe one above another, like rows of ſeats in an ancient amphitheatre, and preſent a moſt beautiful ſpectacle to thoſe that approach by water. To the ſea, nothing appears but the two citadels, Stella and Falcone. All the upper range of works is cut out of the rock into vaults and intricate communications. In the centre of the ſemicircle, is a ſmaller port or darſena for boats and gallies, defended by a couple of baſtions, and ſhut up every evening with a boom. A commodious quay communicates with all the ſtreets, by means of large flights of ſteps.

Elba was held with Piombino by the Appiani as a fief of the empire, till Charles the Fifth thought proper to transfer it to Coſmo the firſt duke of Florence, that he might ſecure it and the adjacent coaſt from the inſults of the Turks and French, which the preceding feudatory was not in a condition to repel. The duke built Ferraio in 1548; but it was not brought to the preſent ſtate of perfection before the reign of Coſmo the Second, who completed theſe fortifications in 1628, with a magnificence equal to that diſplayed by the old Romans in their public undertakings. The gates are decorated with ſculpture, and the rings for faſtening cables to are of carved bronze. The garriſon is ſmall, and the artillery trifling, for ſo large

large a fortreſs; but the neutrality of its maſter is its preſent ſecurity, and renders a ſtronger force unneceſſary.

SECTION II.

THERE being no appearance of a favourable change in the wind, we made an excurſion to the iron mines.

We croſſed the bay, and aſcended the mountain by a very rugged path. The gullies that ſeam its ſides are full of orchards, with ſome few orange-trees, cut to pieces and ſtunted by the N. W. wind. The waſte is covered with myrtle, lauruſtinus, lentiſcus, arbutus, and many other flowering ſhrubs. The ſummit of theſe mountains is bare of wood, but not of verdure.

On a ſhaggy rock ſtands the Tower of Voltoraio, where ſix ſoldiers defend the frontiers of the Tuſcan ſtate, marked out by ſtones placed in angular directions along the top of the ridge that encompaſſes the bay of Porto-Ferraio. The view from this Tower is wonderfully fine every way, as the eye overlooks the whole iſland, that of Corſica, many ſcattered iſlets, the channel of Piombino, and a great range of continent.

We deſcended on the eaſt ſide of the mountain to Rio, a poor village inhabited by miners. Under it breaks out the only rivulet in Elba, which does not run above a mile

before it falls into the ſea; but the water guſhes out of the rock in ſuch abundance, that it turns ſeventeen mills in that ſhort courſe. We followed this pretty ſtream down a narrow vale, cultivated with great nicety, and planted with orange and other fruit-trees, till it brought us to the celebrated iron mine.

This mine is not, like moſt others, compoſed of ferruginous ſtrata, or of pieces of ore diſperſed among heterogeneous ſubſtances, in horizontal ſtreaks or accidental lumps, which are come at with difficulty, by means of galleries, engines, and deep pits; on the contrary, it forms one large hill of ſolid ore, worked in three terraces, after the manner of a fine quarry of ſtone, by clearing away the top, and hewing or blaſting the rock, till it drops in ſhivers into the area, from whence it is wheeled to the place of ſale. The circumference of this iron hill is near three miles, and the depth of the ore to the flaty foundation about three hundred feet. Where it has not yet been touched, or has lain undiſturbed many years, vines and other plants grow tolerably well on the ſurface, and are ſaid by Koeſtlin * to contain particles of iron in their leaves and ſtems, as may be diſcovered by calcination. If this were really the caſe, which I very much doubt, it would give a greater degree of credibility to the ſtories told in Hungary, where bits of gold are ſhewn adhering to the

* A German phyſician, who publiſhed an account of Elba in 1780.

ſtalks

ſtalks and grapes of the Tokay vines, ſuppoſed to have been drawn out of the ground by the plant in the courſe of vegetation.

The place where the preſent works are carried on reſembles a funnel with one ſide broken down. About ſeven hundred pounds weight of gunpowder are conſumed annually in blaſting, and one hundred and ſix men conſtantly employed with the pickaxe or barrow. From a ſcarcity of wood, none of the ore is ſmelted on the iſland, but is ſold to the agents of the Tuſcan, Roman, Corſican, and Neapolitan furnaces, at the rate of fifty-one crowns *per cento*; a weight conſiſting of thirty-three thouſand three hundred and thirty-three pounds and an half each. The Corſicans and Tuſcans have a right to pick the ore, for which they pay an additional price. All others take it unſorted, and, with every parcel of large ore, are obliged to take a tenth part of the refuſe: the two privileged traders have a fifth.

This ore is beautiful, abounding in rainbow ſhoots and chriſtalliſations; but although it appears to the eye and the feel to be almoſt one ſolid maſs of iron, it is by no means ſo rich as many iron ores in the north of Europe, and hardly yields half its weight in pure metal.

It is a doubt, whether this mine of Rio be the ſame mentioned by Ariſtotle, and other ancient authors, to have been open in their time, but it is generally believed to be ſo. Pini, who in 1777 gave a diſſertation on Elba, makes a cal-

a calculation to prove, that it is poſſible theſe mines may have been continually wrought ſince that very diſtant period, without being more exhauſted than we ſee them. He ſuppoſes the preſent area, where the ore is dug, to be a cylinder of five thouſand feet in circumference, upon a depth of two hundred feet, capable of containing three hundred and ninety-ſeven millions ſeven hundred and twenty-ſeven thouſand cubic feet of earth or ore, of which only one third part, or one hundred and thirty-two millions five hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand ſix hundred and ſixty-ſix two thirds is to be aſſigned to the ſolid mineral; that each cubic foot of ore weighs four hundred and eight pounds; and therefore, that the whole weight of the ore hitherto dug out amounts to fifty-four thouſand and ninety millions eight hundred and ſeventy-two thouſand pounds. Now, for many years back, the annual exportation has not exceeded forty-one millions ſix hundred and ſixty-ſix thouſand two hundred and fifty pounds weight; by which computation it appears, that it would require one thouſand two hundred and ninety-eight years to work out a quantity equal to what may be contained in the above-mentioned area. But as the Steward aſſured me, he did not ſell, upon an average, more than thirty-five millions of pounds weight a year, the allowance made by Pini is too great by near a ſeventh. Beſides, much more copper was uſed anciently in arms and utenſils than at preſent; gunpowder was un-

known, and conſequently greater difficulties attended the miner's art. The ore of Elba was probably ſmelted at no other place than that from which it derived its name, *Populonium*; and therefore we may believe, that a much ſmaller quantity than thirty-five millions was annually extracted; conſequently the mine could not be worked down to its actual ſtate in ſo ſhort a term as one thouſand two hundred and ninety-eight years. The extent of the part yet untouched will afford employment for many ages to come, notwithſtanding the greater expedition uſed in modern metallurgy. The Prince of Piombino, to whom theſe treaſures belong, receives from the ſale, *communibus annis*, about forty thouſand Roman crowns (nine thouſand five hundred and twenty-three pounds Sterling), clear of all expences.

The ancients were of opinion, that the ore was reproduced in a courſe of years by a ſpecies of vegetation; and ſuch has been the ſentiment of ſome moderns, who allege, that many pickaxes, and other implements, have been found in old workings, covered with an incruſtation of iron. As none of theſe tools have been met with in the heart of the virgin rock, but always in the trenches, where the ſhiver of old grooves has been thrown, the cruſt gathered round them is no proof of the regeneration of iron, It is plain, that this coat is not produced by the ſame cauſes that create an increaſe of bulk in plants, viz. the acceſſion of proper food and juices aſſimilating themſelves to the plant,

plant, and becoming part of it. This incruſtation is no more than the junction of innumerable minute particles of iron diſperſed in the rubbiſh of the works, which run together, and by length of time conſolidate into a mineral maſs.

SECTION III.

ON the twenty-ſecond, a faint breeze carried us out of the harbour of Porto-Ferraio, into the channel that divides Elba from the Tuſcan coaſt.

The captain aſſured me, that the compaſs was of no uſe in ſteering a ſhip within four leagues of Elba, as the needle veered about continually with great irregularity. Some authors deny the exiſtence of any ſuch attraction in the iſland, or even its poſſibility; others are of opinion, that if this attractive power exiſt, it can be perceptible only on the ſide where the mines lie, and that a veſſel muſt be very near the iſland to be within the reach of its magnetic action. Without attempting to argue the point, I ſhall content myſelf with mentioning, that I perceived the utmoſt confuſion and variation in the needle moſt part of the day, though we conſtantly kept at the diſtance of a league from Elba.

The wind was low and unſettled, and twenty-four hours paſſed in tacks. This delay, and the fineneſs of the weather,

ther, afforded leiſure to examine the coaſt of Tuſcany, which is flat and woody, backed at a great diſtance by the mountains of Sienna; thoſe of Montenero, near Leghorn, bound the horizon to the north; and on the ſouth quarter, the ridge behind Orbitello, with the inſulated promontory of Monte Argentato, cloſes the proſpect. The channel is about ten miles wide; but, from the clearneſs of the atmoſphere, does not appear to be more than five. Some ſmall iſlands diſperſed in the paſſage, the high lands of Elba, the city of Piombino, and a great variety of veſſels ſailing in all directions, compoſed a moſt delightful marine piece, worthy of the pencil of a Claude or a Vernet.

Piombino, built on the point of a little bay, is the capital of a principality formerly belonging to the republic of Piſa, and on the deſtruction of that commonwealth, occupied by private uſurpers. From the fifteenth century, it was poſſeſſed by the Appiani family, which became extinct in the reign of the Emperor Ferdinand the Second. He ſeized upon it as an imperial eſcheat; and in 1634, ſold it to Nicholas Ludoviſi, nephew to Pope Gregory the Fifteenth. A grand-daughter of Nicholas carried the eſtate and honours into the houſe of Buoncompagno, Duke of Sora.

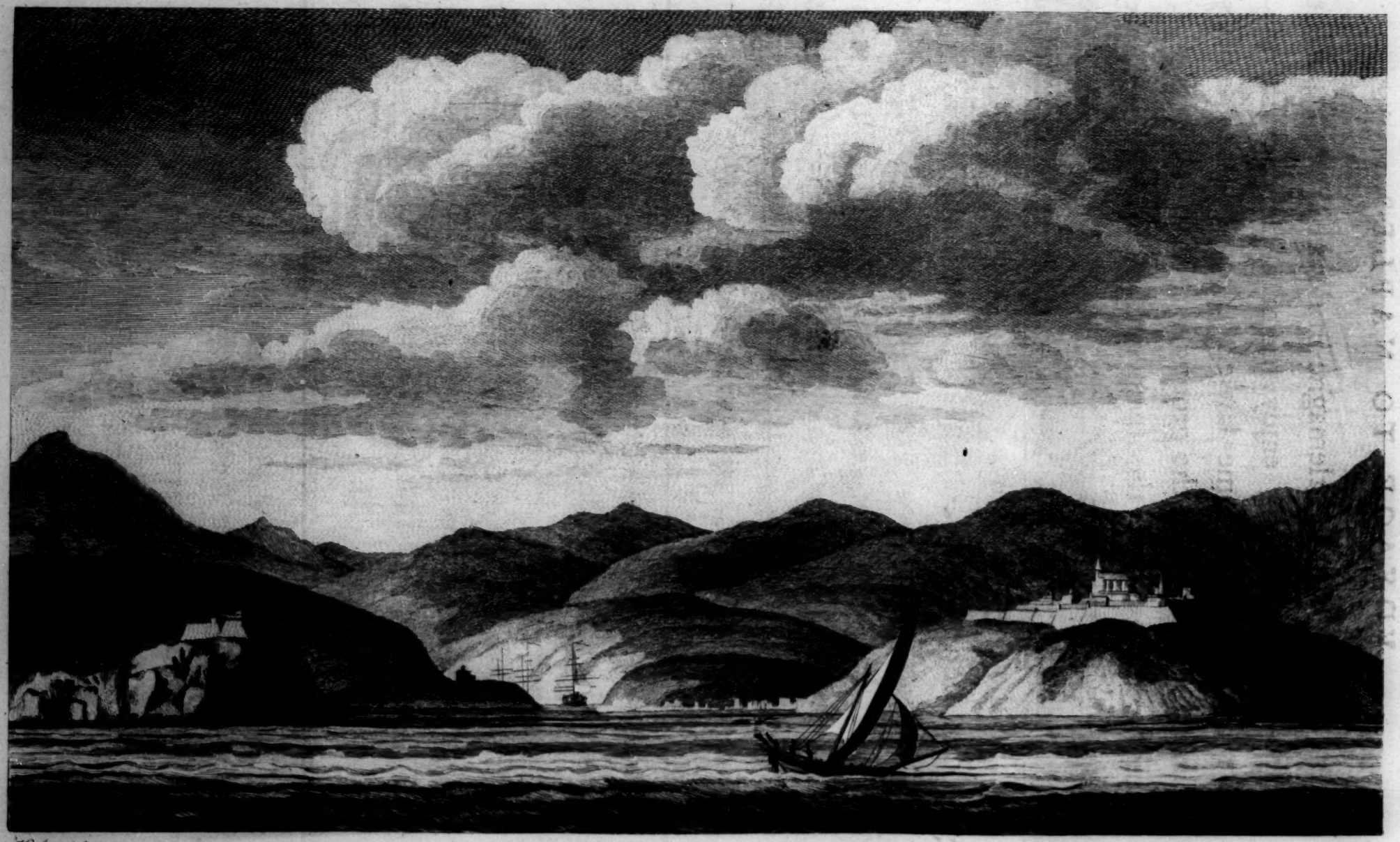
Not far from hence ſtood the ancient city of Populonia, a colony of the Volterrans, and one of the firſt cities built in Italy near the ſea-coaſt. After the fall of the Roman empire, this place became a prey to the Goths and Lom-

bards; and at laſt, Charlemagne made the Pope a preſent of it, who did not long enjoy the advantages of the donation; for in 809, ſome lawleſs tribes of mountaineers levelled Populonia with the ground.

In the morning of the twenty-third, ſo ſtrong a gale ſprang up in the S. E. that we were glad to run into Porto Longone, to avoid being blown through the channel back to the coaſt of France.

Porto Longone is a conſiderable fortreſs, begun in 1606, and completed in thirty years. Cardinal Mazarin, with a view of diſturbing the Spaniards in their communication with Italy, and of mortifying the Pope, whom he knew to be a zealous partiſan of Spain, ſent the Marechal de la Meilleraie, in 1646, with a fleet and army, to attack Piombino and Porto Longone. The former was carried in a few days, and the latter obliged to capitulate after a fortnight's ſiege. Both places were retaken, in 1650, by Don John of Auſtria.

It is now garriſoned by Neapolitan troops, as being annexed to the crown of the Two Sicilies, with the reſt of the Tuſcan Preſidii, ſince Philip the Fifth ceded to his ſon Don Carlos all his claims upon that kingdom. It ſtands upon the north-eaſt promontory of a large bay. At the bottom of this bay, a projecting rock, with a ſmall caſtle upon it, defends and hides the entrance of the harbour, a pleaſant and well-ſheltered cove. At the foot of the hills are ſmall vallies full of cottages and vineyards, interſected by



W. Sw. del. *P. Mazell sculp.*

PORTO LONGONE.

by gravel paths, and incloſed with hedges of arbutus, which, at this ſeaſon of the year, are rendered particularly beautiful by the ſcarlet berries that almoſt cover the buſhes. On the ſouth ſide is a fine well under the rock, where ſhips ſend their boats to take in water.

SECTION IV.

ON the twenty-fourth, the wind coming about to the northward, and the weather ſetting-in fine, we hoiſted anchor and ſailed, much againſt the will of our crew, who had promiſed themſelves a pleaſant trip on ſhore, to hear midnight maſs, and make a Chriſtmas ſupper. There does not exiſt a more dilatory race of mariners than the Provençals. If they were not prevented by ſupercargoes and paſſengers from indulging their loitering diſpoſition, they would call at every port in their track, and waſte time in each of them. The captains of theſe veſſels eat out all their profits in harbour, and not one in a hundred dies worth a groat.

In the afternoon, we deſcried to the weſt the little iſland of Pianoſa, the ancient Planaſia, remarkable for the exile and death of Agrippa Cæſar, the poſthumous ſon of Marcus Agrippa and Julia. His indiſcretion and rough behaviour furniſhed Livia with the means of ruining him

in the opinion of his grandfather Auguſtus, who annulled his adoption, confiſcated his eſtates, and ſent him into this place of baniſhment. At the end of eight years, Auguſtus paid him a ſecret viſit, which being made known to Livia, rouſed her fears leſt Agrippa ſhould be recalled, and appointed ſucceſſor to the Imperial throne. To avert ſo fatal a blow to her hopes, ſhe haſtened the end of the ſuperannuated Emperor, and ſent a centurion to murder the exiled Prince. Agrippa, naturally intrepid and robuſt, made an obſtinate reſiſtance, though attacked unawares, and fell covered with wounds, the firſt victim of the bloody reign of Tiberius.

We ſoon after ſailed between the mainland and the iſlands of Giglio and Giannuti *, ſmall granite rocks, covered with buſhes and uninhabited.

The wind was now very fair, and we might have made much way, had not our captain been ſo terrified with an appearance of bad weather to windward, that he inſtantly put the helm about, and ran in towards the road of Telamon; but as ſoon as we perceived his intention, we obliged him to reſume his original courſe, having learnt from one of the ſailors, who was perfectly acquainted with the navigation of theſe ſeas, that if we reached that bay, and a ſtorm came on, we ſhould have the vexation of toſſing about at anchor, in imminent danger, for ſeveral days,

* Igillium & Dianium.

without

without a poſſibility of landing. All theſe manœuvres took up a great deal of time, and made us loſe the benefit of the breeze. During the next thirty hours, we were under the neceſſity of ſtanding out to ſea in a heavy ſwell, in order to keep clear of the Spiaggie Romane, a lee-ſhore, extending thirty-ſix leagues to the ſouth, and extremely dangerous with a weſterly or S. W. wind, as it is not diſcernible at a diſtance, and the ſands are ſaid to reach out near ſeven leagues from the land.

We ſteered a S. W. coaſt from Giglio, with a very hard gale and a terrible ſea, for at leaſt twenty-four leagues, a very unneceſſary elbow. The night was ſqually, the waves ſhort and furious; our polacre rolled like a barrel, with ſuch violent, uneven, and ſudden ſhocks, that it was impoſſible to be prepared againſt them. The confidence we had in the ſoundneſs of her timbers ſupported our ſpirits in ſuch a tremendous ſituation; but two alarming circumſtances happened in the night, that would have ſtartled older and bolder ſeamen than we were. Our horſes, that ſtood in ſtalls upon deck, broke looſe, and were with difficulty ſecured; our kitchen took fire, but we luckily extinguiſhed the flames before they got a-head. The return of day-light afforded but a dreary proſpect: a raging tumbling ſea, a rolling ſhip, ſcarce able to carry any ſail, and no land in ſight. We paſſed twelve hours very unpleaſantly, beating back in a S. E. direction for the coaſt of Italy; and I think I never heard a ſound more grateful

to

to my ears, and relieving to my ſpirits, than the voice of the boy, who about ſunſet called out from the maſt-head, that he ſaw Cape Circelli*. We were now paſt all danger from the Roman coaſt; the wind was fallen, and though it was extremely cold, and ſnowed all night, the ſight of land made us quite happy and reconciled to every inconvenience.

Before day-break, we were called up to behold the flames iſſuing out of Mount Veſuvius, a new and ſtriking ſcene to us all. This welcome to Naples was doubly agreeable, as being unexpected; for at this time of the year, we did not imagine there would be an eruption. Snow and hazineſs ſoon deprived us of the view. It fell a dead calm off a cluſter of iſlands, called, from the largeſt among them, the Ponza Iſles. There is tolerable anchorage and a town at Ponza, which was a Roman colony, where Tiberius cauſed Nero, ſon of Germanicus, to be ſtarved to death. The aſhes of this unfortunate Prince were removed to Rome by his brother Caligula, who, not long after, baniſhed his ſiſters Julia and Agrippina to the ſame ſpot. Among the writers of martyrology, Ponza is famous for the exile and death of Flavia Domitilla, a re-

* This is a high inſulated mountain, at the ſouthern extremity of the Pomptine Marſhes, in the Eccleſiaſtical State, renowned in fable for having been the reſidence of the Enchantreſs Circé, who transformed men into brutes, and whoſe connections with Ulyſſes are deſcribed by Homer in the tenth and twelfth books of his Odyſſey.

lation of Domitian, and one of the moſt diſtinguiſhed proſelites of the infant church of Chriſt.

Moſt part of the day was ſpent in weathering Ventotiene, a ſmall iſland at ſome diſtance E. of Ponza. It is a rock formed of vulcanical matter thrown up by fire, as the obſervations of Sir William Hamilton ſufficiently demonſtrate. The layers of its cliffs are tinged with very remarkable red and yellow ſtreaks. The ancients called it Pandataria, and made uſe of it as a receptable for criminals of an exalted rank. Julia, the daughter of Auguſtus, was confined here with her repudiated mother Scribonia, who, from mere maternal tenderneſs, followed her daughter to this deſert, a voluntary exile. After ten years miſerable exiſtence on this rock of deſolation, the unhappy Julia was removed to the coaſt of Rhegium, where ſhe died of hunger.

Pandataria, which had been the priſon of the wanton Julia, became, not many years after, the place of confinement allotted to her virtuous daughter Agrippina. The ſpotleſs reputation of this matron, joined to the memory of her injured huſband Germanicus, had rendered her and her children objects of love and hope to the Roman people, and conſequently of jealouſy and hatred to Tiberius. To quiet his apprehenſions, and cruſh at once all the expectations Rome might cheriſh of ſeeing better days, the tyrant cauſed the young Princes to be murdered, and their mother to periſh in Pandataria, through ill uſage, and the want of every neceſſary of life. Caligula, her only ſurviving ſon,

brought

brought her aſhes from the iſland, and depoſited them with great ſolemnity in the Auguſtan Mauſoleum.

At the inſtigation of Poppæa, Nero ſent hither his wife Octavia, daughter of Claudius, and ordered her to be put to death, by opening her veins in a bath.

The deſtination of Ventotiene is at preſent ſomewhat ſimilar to what it was in the time of the Cæſars; for it is now inhabited by a conſiderable number of felons condemned to baniſhment on this rock, where they are forced to work and improve the ſcanty ſoil, in order to form a ſettlement that may prevent the corſairs of Barbary from rendezvouſing here.

There was ſo little wind, that our pilot was afraid we ſhould not get under the ſhelter of Procida before night, which would have been an unpleaſant circumſtance, as the wind might have riſen again while we were at its mercy in the open ſea, and driven us down to the coaſts of Sicily or Sardinia: fortunately the breeze ſufficed to carry us into the channel of Procida, where we came to an anchor. The night was ſtill and mild, and we paſſed great part of it in contemplating Veſuvius, which we now diſtinguiſhed very plainly. An immenſe river of blazing lava ran down the ſide, ſupplied by ſtreams of red hot matter vomited at intervals out of the ſummit of the mountain. The whole atmoſphere was illumined, and a long train of light reflected from it acroſs the gulph upon the tremulous ſurface of

of the waves, was as beautiful, if not more ſo, than the real fiery torrent.

The twenty-eighth was a heavy damp day, and our ſailors were ſo diſpirited with the rain, which ſeems to be as contrary to their conſtitution as it is to that of the negroes, that it required the promiſe of an extraordinary recompence to prevail upon them to hoiſt their anchor. We were the whole day in ſailing ten miles; the celebrated views of the gulf were hidden from our eyes by impenetrable fog and drizzling rain; Veſuvius alone ſometimes reared his burning head above the clouds, and, to our great aſtoniſhment, was covered with ſnow to the very verge of the flaming tip of the cone. At ten at night we entered the port of Naples.

NAPLES, and its ENVIRONS.

SECTION V.

THE unavoidable hurry upon our arrival prevented me from viſiting Veſuvius while the eruption continued. As ſoon as I was at liberty, I hired a hackney two-wheeled chaiſe, called a Caleſſo; which is no more than a very uneaſy triangular ſeat, gilt and bedaubed with gaudy colours, fixed upon an axle-tree, and drawn by a ſingle horſe. Some of theſe horſes ſell very dear, and go at a prodigious rate, always in a high trot. The driver ſtands behind, and with the whip and voice directs the horſe's motion. The hirer holds the reins; but is not reſponſible for any miſchief the carriage may do, unleſs he alſo takè poſſeſſion of the laſh. The reins are faſtened to a caveſſon, without a bit, and the more the animal is pulled, the faſter he goes: a hiſs ſtops him.

One

One of theſe chairs conveyed me about eight miles from Naples, to the place where the lava ceaſed to run, after filling up a road, overturning ſome cottages, and conſuming a wide tract of vineyards. The poplars, to which the vines were tied, were burnt or cruſhed beneath the weight of the cooler lumps that tumbled off on each ſide from the fiery maſs. The ſurface of this black and now ſtagnant river is very uneven, full of points and protuberances, and broken into chaſms. It anſwers the idea I have of a rocky mountain overturned into a valley, and ſhattered to pieces by an earthquake. In colour, the lava reſembles ſlag, or the firſt clearings of an iron mine. The intenſe heat that ſtill iſſued from it, though the flames were not viſible by day-light, kept me at a diſtance. By night, fire may be ſeen through the crevices of the duſky cruſt. It had run cloſe to a lava of ſeventeen years date, which is not yet ſufficiently triturated by the action of air, to afford hold to the ſeeds of any plant, except a long hoary moſs, commonly the firſt ſettler on theſe cinders, which are infinitely ſofter, and ſooner crumbled to duſt, than the *Sciarras* of Ætna.

After ſatisfying my curioſity with an attentive examination of theſe objects, I returned to Portici, hired a guide and mule, and rode up through the vineyards to the foot of the mountain, where vegetation terminates in a long coarſe graſs, the only plant that can bear the vicinity of the hot aſhes and ſulphureous exhalations. I aſcended

the ſteep cone of cinders in a direct line, up to the ancles at every ſtep in purple lukewarm aſhes. The heat was not very powerful till we came within a few yards of the ſummit, and there ſmoke breaks out through many crannies. On the Portici ſide there is very little lava, except a few ſcattered ſtones that ſerve to reſt upon. It is impoſſible to give a juſt idea of the fatigue of this climbing. Before that day I had mounted ſome very exalted points of the Alps, and clambered up the higheſt peak of the Pyrenees, without feeling ſuch oppreſſive wearineſs and exhauſtion of ſpirits and ſtrength as I experienced on Veſuvius. Perhaps, the mephitic effluvium, which attacked my reſpiration, may alſo have had a debilitating effect upon my nerves and muſcles. I ſhould hardly have been able to proceed, had I not held by my guide, who went before with a handkerchief tied round his waiſt.

I confeſs I was a good deal diſappointed on reaching the ſummit; for the deſcriptions I had read had raiſed in my imagination an expectation of every thing that could be glaring and ſtriking in colours, pompous and tremendous in a ſcene of igneous phænomena; but the late eruption had, for a time, laid all the mountain's fury aſleep, and every thing was dull and dark. The vent, by which the lava ran out, is much below the top of the mountain, and on that ſide the ſulphureous ſteams are very pungent. I was on the point of returning rather fruſtrated of my hopes, when a curling column of ſmoke and flame roſe

ſlowly

ſlowly out of the gloomy abyſs, and brought up with it a thick white cloud, that had hitherto rendered the crater impervious to my ſight. The wind quickly caught hold of this column, and whirled it round the immenſe caldron ſeveral times with inconceivable noiſe and velocity, till it forced part of the ſmoke to fly off horizontally from the mountain, and daſhed the remainder back into its original cavern. During this conflict, on the oppoſite ſide to that where we ſtood, I had a peep very far into the crater. The ſides ſeemed all lava and ſcoria, with very little variety in the tints, cloſed at bottom by an impenetrable ſcreen of ſmoke. I have ſeen old ruined coalpits, that afford a tolerable idea of this volcanic kettle. As ſoon as the ſmoke was driven away, the roaring below grew loud, and frequent exploſions were heard with a hollow ſound; and at every throe, which cauſed a very conſiderable commotion in the thin arch on which we ſtood, a ſhower of red-hot ſtones was ſhot up; but not riſing many feet above the mountain, they did not come within the ſweep of the wind, and ſo fell back perpendicularly into the rumbling gulf.

I ſhall not preſume to inveſtigate minutely the origin, compoſition, or operations of the mountain, as we have ample information on this ſubject in the works of Sir William Hamilton. His knowledge of the volcano is ſo complete, and reputation on that head ſo firmly eſtabliſhed at Naples, that more than once the court has waited to

regulate

regulate its ſtay at Portici, or removal from thence, till he had declared, when he thought the eruption would begin, and what direction the lava was likely to follow. Many writers of diſſertations on ignivomous mountains have been led into a labyrinth of miſtakes, falſe poſitions, and falſe conſequences, by truſting ſolely to the relations of others, and not being at the pains of examining the phænomena with their own eyes. Whoever has not had the advantage of inſpecting an active volcano, ſhould not preſume to write upon that ſubject, as he muſt unavoidably fall into error, in ſpite of all the learning, combinations, and ſagacity the wit of man is ſuſceptible of. Indeed, ſome authors, who have had Veſuvius before their eyes for forty years, have likewiſe fallen into ſtrange indefenſible opinions concerning its component parts, original formation, and modes of operating. Attachment to ſyſtem miſleads us all, and frequently cauſes us to ſee things, not as they are, but as we wiſh to find them. Nothing but the deſire of proving Veſuvius to be a primordial mountain, and not the produce of eruptions, could have brought Padre della Torre to believe, that he ſaw regular, original, calcareous, and granite ſtrata, far down in the bowels of the mountain; where, if he ſaw any thing, it was probably ſtreaks of ſulphureous and mineral efflorеſcences adhering to the coats of the funnel. Nothing but ſyſtem could have ſo blinded Richard, as to prevent his finding a ſingle pumice ſtone, or other mark of fire, in the rocks of Poſilipo, where any trivial

trivial obſerver may meet with innumerable black calcined ſtones, though he may not be ſufficiently converſant in the ſubject to diſcover, that the whole rock owes its birth to workings of volcanic fires. Without prejudices of this kind, could other authors have ſeen nothing in Monte Somma, and the hills of Naples, but primitive ſubſtances, unaltered ſince the deluge; when, in reality, every ſtone beſpeaks a fiery origin?

To be convinced that Veſuvius has been raiſed from the level of the plains, or, more properly ſpeaking, of the ſea, by the ſole action of fire contained in its bowels, requires, methinks, nothing but an eye accuſtomed to obſerve, and a ſound judgment unbiaſſed by party. I own I cannot entertain a doubt of it, after having conſidered the inſulated poſition, and apparent compoſition of the mountain, together with the ſoil of all the adjacent country; after having reflected upon the birth of Monte Nuovo thrown up to the perpendicular height of two hundred feet, in the ſhort ſpace of forty-eight hours; and upon the apparition of many iſlands raiſed out of the boſom of the waters by ſubmarine fires, of which both ancient and modern hiſtory afford examples. The iſland of Aſcenſion, and many in the Archipelago, one of which roſe out of the ſea in 1707, completely prove this aſſertion. The origin of the iſle of Rhodes, as related in Pindar's ſeventh Olympic, ſeems to be of the ſame claſs. This poet calls Rhodes a native of the floods, and tells us, "that ancient tales of men relate,

"that when Jupiter and the gods divided the earth, "Rhodes was not viſible amidſt the marine waves, but "lay hid in the briny deep*." Apollo, being abſent, was left out of this partition-treaty, and, on his appearance, Jupiter would have proceeded to a freſh diviſion; but the God of Day declined the offer, contenting himſelf with dominions that did not interfere with any god's ſhare: "for "(ſays he) I behold in the frothy ſea a fruitful land riſing "from the bottom." And accordingly, as he ſpoke, "Lo! the iſland ſhot up out of the waters." It is eaſy to trace this fable to its ſource, the heaving up of the ſoil at the bottom of the ſea by the vehemence of fire.

Whatever may have been the origin of Veſuvius, whether as a mountain it be coëval with the firſt-created protuberances of this globe, or whether it be an irregular production of ages ſubſequent to the creation, this we may ſafely affirm, that it has been a volcano beyond the reach of

* Φανῆ δανθρώπων παλαιὰ
Ῥησίες ἔπω ὄλε
Χθόνα δαλέοντο Ζεύς τε καὶ ἀθάναλοι
Φανερὰν εν πελάγει
Ῥόδον ἔμμεν ποντίῳ.
Ἀλμυροῖς δ' εν βένθεσιν νᾶσον κεκρύφθαι

————ἐπεὶ πολιᾶς
Εἶπε τὶν αὐλὸς ὁρᾶν ἔνδον θαλάσσας
Αὐξομέναν πεδόθεν
Πολύβοσκον, γαῖαν ἀνθρώ
ποισι κὴ ἔυφρονα μάλοις

Βλάστε μὲν ἐξ ἀλὸς ὑγρᾶς
Νᾶσος————

history

hiſtory or tradition. Long before it laid Herculaneum waſte, it was deſcribed by authors as bearing the marks of fire on its ſummit. Some even ſay, the report of its having vomited flames went ſo far back into antiquity as to border upon fable. A moſt animated deſcription of its ravages in 79 is left us by the younger Pliny, who was a woeful witneſs to all he relates. From that time, it now and then burſt out, and alarmed the neighbouring country; but ſeemed by degrees to loſe its vigour, till, in the lower ages, it ſcarce gave ſufficient alarm to merit a place in the chronicles of the times. In 1631, it broke out again with accumulated fury, and ſpread ſuch devaſtation around, as almoſt equalled the horrors of the firſt year of Titus. Since that epocha, it has had its periods of turbulence and repoſe; and of late years it has ſo redoubled its violence, as to emit ſmoke continually, and every year, at leaſt, a torrent of lava. Whence it draws its immenſe ſupplies of combuſtibles, and how long its preſent cone will be able to bear theſe unremitting efforts, exceeds the power of all human calculation. I believe, however, that with all its terrors, Veſuvius, open and active, is leſs hoſtile to Naples, than it would be, if its eruptions were to ceaſe, and its ſtruggles were to be confined to its bowels: then undoubtedly would enſue moſt fatal ſhocks to the unſtable foundation of the Terra di Lavoro.

The day being clear, I made ſome ſtay on the top, to obtain a juſt idea of the topography of this curious coun-

try. There cannot be a more advantageous ſtation for examining Naples and its environs, as Veſuvius ſtands ſingle, at a diſtance from all other mountains, and commands the plains of Nola, Capua, and Sarno, the chain of the Apennines, the promontory of Sorrento, the hills and gulf of Naples, with all its iſlands. I obſerved, that the ridge extending weſtward from Poggio Reale to Monte Gauro, is entirely ſeparated by the plains from every other eminence, and conſtitutes a vaſt detached promontory, full of lakes and hollows, the craters of extinct vulcanos. On ſurveying thoſe regions from this elevated pinacle, it appeared to me, that, in times of the remoteſt antiquity, there may have exiſted an enormous flaming mountain, with its centrical point between Iſchia and the Camaldoli, and that Solfatara, Aſtruni, Barbaro, &c. may be but the excreſcences and *montagnuole* of one gigantic maſs, which, after exhauſting its force, and wearing out the ſurface, till it grew unable to ſupport its own weight, may have ſunk, and been overwhelmed by the waves. The gulf of Baia, and the channels of Iſchia and Procida, may have been formed by this cataclyſm. The ſize of Ætna renders ſuch an extent no objection to my hypotheſis, and ſhews to what a monſtrous bulk a mountain can ſwell itſelf. Monte Epomeo in Iſchia, and the Camaldoli, are both abruptly broken down facing each other, and both ſlope off very gradually different ways, till one is loſt in the Campi Leborini, and the other ſinks into the ſea.

SEC-

SECTION VI.

IN Chriſtmas time, all quarters of Naples reſound with *Paſtorali* or *Siciliane*, a kind of ſimple rural muſic, executed by Abruzzeſe or Calabrian ſhepherds, upon a ſpecies of bag pipes, called in Abruzzo, Zampogna, and Ciaramelli in Calabria. The tunes vary according to the provinces: in the ſouth, they have three different airs; the northern ſhepherds know only two, to which they add what variations the boldneſs of their own genius inſpires. The boys learn of their fathers to play upon this inſtrument as the means of ſubſiſtence*. At other ſeaſons, it is rare to hear any agreeable ſounds in the ſtreets of Naples, though it is the nurſery of muſical profeſſors: a ſchool, where the greateſt maſters have imbibed their principles, and acquired that knowledge of compoſition, which has enchanted the ears of all Europe. There is no ſuch thing as a national muſic, unleſs we give that name to a monotonous drawling ſeguidilla, that ſerves the nurſes † as a lullaby to put their children to reſt, and

* The waits ſtill kept in the pay of ſome corporations in England, are counterparts of theſe ſhepherds.

† To ſecond its narcotic influence, they adminiſter to them copious doſes of Venice treacle, of which ſuch quantities are uſed, as render it a material article of importation. The Neapolitans have tears at command, and are very eaſily moved to ſhed them. Neither blows nor careſſes can ſtop their children when once they begin to cry: they muſt roar till they are tired.

ſeems borrowed from the Spaniards, who, I believe, learnt it of the Moors. I never reſided in any Italian town where there was a leſs muſical turn in the populace: few ſongs, guittars, vielles, or organs, enliven the evenings, as in the northern ſtates of Italy, unleſs they be ſent for to entertain the parties that in ſummer ſup on the ſhore of Poſilipo*.

They do not even dance to muſic, but perform the Tarantella to the beating of a kind of tambourine, which was in uſe among their anceſtors, as appears by the pictures of Herculaneum. The Tarantella is a low dance, conſiſting of turns on the heel, much footing and ſnapping of the fingers†. It ſeems the delight of their ſoul, and a conſtant holiday diverſion of the young women, who are, in general, far from handſome, although they have fine eyes and ſtriking features. Their hands and feet are clumſy, their ſhapes neglected, their necks flabby, and their ſkins diſcoloured by living ſo much in the ſun without bonnets. Amongſt them we may find almoſt every mode of hair-dreſſing ſeen on the Greek and Roman coins‡.

* I have been told, that before the famine and calamities of 1764, the populace of Naples was more cheerful and muſically inclined than at preſent.

† Perſons of all ranks here dance very low, but mark the time as perfectly with their ſteps, as other nations do by ſpringing from the ground.

‡ The coiffure of the younger Fauſtina, with the coil of plaited hair upon the crown of the head, occurs frequently in the old town: that with the coil lower down, which may more properly be ſtiled Lucilla's head-dreſs, is common among the younger part of the ſex in the ſuburbs of Chiaia, and Plotina's among the women more advanced in years. I do not recollect to have ſeen any with the roll of treſſes ſo high up as it appears on the head of Fauſtina the elder.

The

The women are always fighting and ſcolding, but never reſiſt their huſband's authority, when he comes to ſeparate the combatants, and carry home his diſhevelled ſpouſe, who ſeems to ſtand as much in awe of her conſort, as the Ruſſian wives do of theirs, and ſuffers herſelf to be beaten by him with as little murmuring. I was ſhewn a woman here, who, during the life of her firſt huſband, was a pattern of modeſty and evenneſs of temper to the whole pariſh; but upon contracting a ſecond marriage, ſurprized and ſcandalized the neighbourhood with her perpetual riots and obſtreperouſneſs. On being reprimanded for her behaviour by the curate, ſhe very frankly acknowledged that her former huſband underſtood the management of a wife, and uſed to check her intemperate burſts of paſſion by timely correction; but that her preſent helpmate was too mild, to apply the proper chaſtiſement which every wife requires more or leſs. Men ſeldom interfere in feminine brawls; and if they do, generally content themſelves with abuſing, threatening, or ſhaking a cudgel or pitchfork at their antagoniſt, till the crowd comes in to part them. Sometimes a man is ſtabbed, but this is a rare event among the fiſhermen, the claſs of inhabitants I have had moſt conſtantly under my eye. Manners vary with the diſtricts; in ſome they engage with bludgeons, and thoſe are the true lazaroni of Maſſaniello; in others the attack is made with knives and other deadly weapons; but the Neapolitans are by no means ſo bloody and revengeful a people as they are repre-

ſented by many travellers. It requires more than a ſlight provocation to lead them to extremities. During the prodigious hurry and confuſion of the races in carnival, not the leaſt tumult or quarrel was heard of; and even in the cruel famine of 1764, the only act of violence committed by a hungry populace, increaſed to double its number by the concourſe of peaſants from the provinces, where all crops had failed, was to break open and pillage a ſingle baker's ſhop. Can as much be ſaid for the temper of the mobs at London and Edinburgh? Drunkenneſs is not a common vice at Naples, and therefore quarrels, its uſual conſequences, are rare; beſides, the Neapolitan rabble allow each other a great latitude of abuſe and ſcolding before they are wound up to a fighting pitch. It is alſo uncommon to ſee any thing in public like gallantry among the people; no ſoldiers are met leading their doxies, or girls going about in queſt of lovers; all which are, in other countries, ſources of riot and bloodſhed. At Naples there is nothing but a mere nominal police; yet burglaries are unknown, riots ſtill more ſo, and the number of aſſaſſinations inconſiderable: it bears no proportion to that of the murders committed in the diſtant provinces, where, I am credibly informed, no leſs than four thouſand perſons are killed annually. Moſt of theſe crimes are perpetrated with guns in the mountainous countries, where a great ferocity of character, and wildneſs of manners prevail, and where the inhabitants are more wandering, and leſs expoſed to the purſuits of the law, which is

indeed

indeed far from formidable in any part of the realm. It would require a prudent, inflexible, and long exertion of impartial criminal juſtice, to reduce to order the fierce untractable aſſaſſin of the mountainous regions of Calabria, who being driven by the oppreſſion of the barons and officers of the revenue to penury and deſpair, ſets little value upon his life, and braves danger to the laſt drop of his blood. The execution, however cruel, of a few banditti, would ſtrike but little terror into their aſſociates, and produce no effect but that of ridding ſociety of one or two bad members; nor will any meaſures of police ever prove effectual, unleſs government adopt and purſue, with ſteadineſs, a ſyſtem that may leſſen the grievances of the poor, reſtrain the deſpotiſm of the petty tyrants, and, by providing the peaſant with more means of ſupporting himſelf and family by honeſt labour, guard him againſt the temptation of taking up a lawleſs line of life. The caſe is different in the ſoft and fertile plains of the happy Campagna; there the well-timed prompt execution of a criminal, without allowing him any unneceſſary reſpite to prepare for death, and without ſuffering prieſts to aſſemble round him, to excite the devotion, compaſſion, and almoſt admiration of the crowd, would operate with great energy on the daſtardly minds of the docile race that inhabits this charming climate; the terror of active juſtice would prove a powerful check to murder, and violent outrages.

At preſent, the forms of criminal juriſprudence are here ſo ill ordained, ſo multiplied and ſo complex, that if the king were to inſiſt upon a villain, who was taken in the fact, being tried, and if found guilty, hanged before the end of three days, the diſpatch would almoſt kill the judges with fatigue; for the trial and procedures would employ them eighteen hours out of each twenty-four: Firſt, the accuſation muſt be laid according to rule, and witneſſes examined; next the council for the priſoner pleads a couple of hours; then the advocate for the *fiſco* replies during one hour, and after him the advocate of the poor makes a rejoinder, which he has a right to ſpin out for two hours: this done, every one of the four judges harangues; then all the notifications are made, examinations canvaſſed, proofs debated, and a thouſand trifling formalities obſerved, which occaſion ſuch ſhameful, inſurmountable delays, as eternize a criminal proceſs. It happened lately, that upon the final determination of the trial, and condemnation of a malefactor, a meſſage was ſent to the jailor to bring the culprit into court in order to receive ſentence; when, behold! the turnkey appeared, and made affidavit that the priſoner had died of a long fit of ſickneſs the Chriſtmas twelvemonth before. As the ſalary of a judge in Naples is only fifty ducats a month (£ 9 : 7 : 6), he cannot afford to be honeſt or expeditious: but the caſe is ſtill worſe in the provinces, where the judges have but twenty-five ducats, and with that muſt keep a coach and proper houſehold eſtabliſhment. The ſcri-

vani, or commiſſaries, who have the department of warrants, arreſts, and police, are allowed no pay, though they muſt keep thirty bailiffs a-piece under them; ſo that they are naturally very active in taking up an offender, where there is a probability of extorting any money out of him: when once in durance, the priſoner ceaſes to be an object of conſideration to them, and therefore they take no pains to forward his trial, or bring him to juſtice: there are at this day above twelve thouſand criminals rotting in the different priſons of the kingdom, whoſe maintenance coſts the ſtate above two hundred thouſand ducats a year (thirty-ſeven thouſand five hundred pounds).

The fiſhermen of Santa Lucia are the handſomeſt men in Naples; they have the true old Grecian features, and ſuch well-proportioned limbs, that they might ſerve for models in any academy of deſign: they are the moſt ſubſtantial and beſt lodged portion of the Neapolitan populace. It is true, as moſt writers aſſert, that the houſeroom of this metropolis is very inadequate to the population, which, according to authentic accounts, amounted, at the cloſe of the year 1776, to three hundred and fifty thouſand ſixty-one ſouls; and that numbers of theſe are deſtitute of houſe and property. But it is not equally a fact, as they aſſert, that winter and ſummer theſe houſeleſs inhabitants paſs their lives in the open air, and ſleep in all weathers in the ſtreets. In ſummer it is very pleaſant ſo to do, but in winter not even a dog could bear the inclemency of the weather, not ſo much on account of

cold, as of wet. When the rainy ſeaſon ſets in, it commonly laſts ſeveral ſucceſſive weeks, falling, not in ſuch ſhowers as we are acquainted with in England, where we have rain more or leſs every month in the year, but by pailfuls, an abſolute water-ſpout, that carries all before it, and almoſt drowns the unfortunate paſſenger who is caught out of doors by the ſtorm. The quantity of rain at Naples is much more conſiderable than that which falls on the ſame ſpace of ground in England. Whole months of drought are compenſated by the deluge of a day: and beſides, the ſouth winds are frequently ſo boiſterous in winter, as to burſt open the bolts of both doors and windows. At that rainy time of the year, few are ſo wretched and helpleſs as to lie in the ſtreet, but moſt of the vagrants reſort to the caves under Capodi Monte, where they ſleep in crowds like ſheep in a pinfold. As they are thus provided with a dwelling, for which no rent is exacted, they alſo procure food without the trouble of cooking or keeping houſe: the markets and principal ſtreets are lined with ſellers of macaroni, fried and boiled fiſh, puddings, cakes, and vegetables of all ſorts; where, for a very ſmall ſum, which he may earn by a little labour, running of errands, or picking of pockets, the lazaro finds a ready meal at all hours: the flaggon hanging out at every corner invites him to quench his thirſt with wine; or if he prefers water, as moſt of them do, there are ſtalls in all the thoroughfares, where lemonade and iced water are ſold. The paſſion for iced water is ſo great and ſo

general

general at Naples, that none but mere beggars will drink it in its natural ſtate; and, I believe, a ſcarcity of bread would not be more ſeverely felt than a failure of ſnow. It is brought in boats every morning from the mountains behind Caſtelamare, and is farmed out at a great rent: the Jeſuits, who poſſeſſed a large capital, as well as the true ſpirit of enterprize, had purchaſed the excluſive privilege of ſupplying the city with it.

Very little ſuffices to clothe the lazaro, except on holidays; and then he is indeed tawdrily decked out, with laced jacket and flame-coloured ſtockings: his buckles are of enormous magnitude, and ſeem to be the prototype of thoſe with which our preſent men of mode load their inſteps. The women are alſo very ſplendid on thoſe days of ſhew; but their hair is then bound up in tiſſue caps and ſcarlet nets, a faſhion much leſs becoming than their every day ſimple method. Citizens and lawyers are plain enough in their apparel, but the female part of their family vies with the firſt court ladies in expenſive dreſs, and all the vanities of modiſh fopperies. Luxury has of late advanced with gigantic ſtrides in Naples. Forty years ago, the Neapolitan ladies wore nets and ribbons on their heads, as the Spaniſh women do to this day, and not twenty of them were poſſeſſed of a cap: but hair plainly dreſt is a mode now confined to the loweſt order of inhabitants, and all diſtinction of dreſs between the wife of a nobleman and that of a citizen is entirely laid aſide. Expence and extravagance

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are here in the extreme. The great families are oppreſt with a load of debt; the working part of the community always ſpend the price of their labour before they receive it; and the citizen is reduced to great parſimony, and almoſt penury, in his houſekeeping, in order to anſwer theſe demands of external ſhew: ſhort commons at home whet his appetite when invited out to dinner; and it is ſcarce credible what quantities of victuals he will devour. The nobility in general are well ſerved, and live comfortably, but it is not their cuſtom to admit ſtrangers to their table; the number of poor dependants who dine with them, and cannot properly be introduced into company, prevents the great families from inviting foreigners: another reaſon may be, their ſleeping after dinner in ſo regular a manner as to undreſs and go to bed: no ladies or gentlemen finiſh their toilet till the afternoon, on which account they dine at twelve or one o'clock. The great officers of ſtate, and miniſters, live in a different manner, and keep ſumptuous tables, to which ſtrangers and others have frequent invitations.

The eſtabliſhment of a Neapolitan grandee's houſehold is upon a very expenſive plan; the number of ſervants, carriages, and horſes, would ſuffice for a ſovereign prince; and the wardrobe of their wives is formed upon the ſame magnificent ſcale; yet it is a fixed rule, that all ladies whatever, be the circumſtance of their huſbands affluent or circumſcribed, have an hundred ducats a month, and no more, allowed them for pin-money. At the birth of every child,

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the huſband makes his wife a preſent of an hundred ounces, and ſome valuable trinkets, according to his fortune. Marriage portions are not very great in general; it does not coſt a nobleman more to marry a daughter than it does to make her a nun; for a thouſand pounds will not defray the expence of the ceremonies at her reception and profeſſion: ſhe muſt have a penſion ſettled upon her, and reſerves, beſides, a power over her inheritance, in caſe ſhe ſhall arrive at any dignity in the convent, and wiſh to enrich it with buildings, plate, or veſtments.

Servants and artificers of the city give from fifty to an hundred ducats with their daughters; peaſants and country workmen go as far as three hundred. Females at and near Naples are eſteemed helpleſs and indolent, and therefore have always twice or thrice as much fortune as their brothers, who have greater reſources in their ſtrength and activity. A girl would ſcarce get a huſband, if her lover did not expect to be reimburſed by her portion the ſum he had paid away with his own ſiſters. In the plains, it is cuſtomary for a peaſant, on the birth of a daughter, to plant a row of poplar trees, which are cut down and ſold at the end of ſeventeen years, to make up a fortune for her. The proverbial benediction of *Figlij maſchi*, Male children, which a Neapolitan gives a woman when ſhe ſneezes, is founded on the great facility with which the common people provide for their ſons: as ſoon as they can run about they are able to earn their bread, while their ſiſters remain

idle

idle at home, or beg till they are old enough to attract the notice of the men.

SECTION VII.

THIS kingdom conſiſts of twelve provinces, of which the ſuperficies meaſures fourteen millions five hundred and eight thouſand nine hundred and ſeventy-three moggie. In two thouſand and ſixty-ſeven cities, towns, villages, or hamlets, it contains about four millions five hundred thouſand inhabitants, which is not more than half the population that ſo fertile a country might ſupport. A duty is levied upon landed property, partly by a land tax, and partly by impoſitions on conſumption, taxes for roads, bridges, repairs, and other public exigencies, in the perception of which infinite abuſes are committed *.

Upon a calculation of ten years, the average quantity of wheat ſown in the kingdom amounts to little more than two million five hundred thouſand tomoli; a tomolo is a ſufficient quantity for a moggia. Six hundred and twenty-

* In ſome parts of the kingdom an aſſeſſment is made by the king's officers, and thoſe parts are governed by gabella. Others are upon a freer footing, and regulated by a cataſto; this is a regiſter kept in each diſtrict, or univerſità, wherein are marked the incomes of all the inhabitants, who are taxed in proportion to the number of ounces they poſſeſs, towards completing the ſum demanded of the diſtrict by the king. This ounce contains three carlini. A fuoco implies a family, or five perſons.

five thouſand moggie are ſown with barley and lent grain, and two hundred and fifty thouſand with Indian corn and pulſe; but it is ſuppoſed by good judges, that one million ſeven hundred and ſixty four thouſand, five hundred and eighteen moggie more might be ſown with wheat, five hundred and eighty-four thouſand and eighty-one moggie with barley, oats, and other lenten corn, and with pulſe and Indian corn, one hundred and twelve thouſand, ſeven hundred and twenty-four moggie, or thereabouts.

The uſual produce of wheat, on an average, of the laſt ten years, comes to about twenty-two millions tomoli, reckoning it about eight tomoli per moggia per annum between the more and leſs fertile lands.

	Tomoli.
For ſeed there go - -	2,500,000
For the conſumption of the inhabitants, in number 4,487,628, at five tomoli a head, -	22,438,140
	24,938,140

But four tomoli a head being a juſter calculation, becauſe in ſeveral provinces the common people live upon bread made of Turkey wheat, barley, cheſtnuts, &c. the neceſſary conſumption in wheat ought to be ſtated only at - - 17,950,512

Add for ſeed - -	2,500,000
	20,450,512

Conſequently there remain for exportation, one year with another, about one million and a half of tomoli.

In ſome grounds, where beans and Indian corn have been gathered, it is uſual to ſow wheat the ſame year, and thoſe lands are called Maggiſi. It is thought that four millions of Moggi are fit for the reception of wheat, but two thirds of them are not ſown, through the bad œconomy of government, impoſitions, vexations, &c. In the territory of Foggia, part of Puglia, there is reckoned to be an extent of one hundred and fifty thouſand verſure proper for corn; each verſura will take three and a half tomoli of wheat to ſow, or four and a half tomoli of barley. However, till the year 1767, no more was ever ſown than fifty-three thouſand verſure, not even in 1764, at the time of the famine, though, in order to ſecure an ample ſupply for the next year, the tenants threw upon the lands more ſeed-corn than uſual, and exerted themſelves to the utmoſt of their abilities. Abuſes in adminiſtration, and rapacity in the tax-gatherers, defeat all ſchemes of improvement in huſbandry. In 1767, one hundred and eleven thouſand verſure were ſown in the territory of Foggia. If the three million moggie of land fit for the plough, more than the quantity actually in tillage, were ſown with corn, the kingdom might probably produce thirty-two millions tomoli of wheat, inſtead of twenty-two millions; and the exportation of grain might then be always kept open without danger, and to the great advantage of the cultivators.

It is calculated that the culture of corn employs ten perſons, that of the vine at leaſt twenty.

The chief exportation of corn is made from the provinces of Capitanata, Bari, Otranto, Abruzzo, Moliſe, Calabria, and Baſilicata: they ſupply the internal conſumption of the kingdom and foreign markets. The product of the Terra di Lavoro, and Salerno, is reſerved for the uſe of the capital.

The exports of the kingdom of Naples are, wheat, barley, legumes, Indian corn; hemp, line, cummin, fennel, and anniſeeds; wool, oil, wine, cheeſe, fiſh, ſalt fleſh, honey, wax, freſh and dry fruit, manna, ſaffron, liquorice, feccia brucciata, gums, locuſt beans, capers, lupins, *paſte*, macaroni of various ſorts, ſalt, potaſh, brimſtone, nitre, argal, pitch, tar, ſumach, ſkins, cattle, oranges, lemons, brandy, vinegar, metals, minerals, marble, ſilk, hemp, flax, cottons, and divers ſorts of manufactures. All theſe products might be ſent out in very great quantities, if proper encouragement were given; and both horſes and cattle might become valuable articles of exportation, if the breed were attended to.

The provinces moſt abundant in oil are, Bari, Otranto, Calabria, and Abruzzo. The product, upon ten years average, has been eſteemed at ſix hundred thouſand ſalme. The conſumption of the whole kingdom, including the capital, rarely exceeds three hundred thouſand ſalme, yet the exportation of late years has ſeldom amounted to forty thou-

ſand ſalme, except in the year 1767, when it was greater, on account of the general failure of olives throughout Spain.

The city of Naples conſumes annually thirty-ſeven thouſand five hundred ſalme of clear oils, and about three thouſand of dirty oils.

The duties upon a ſalm of oil exported from Gallipoli or Taranto are,

	Duc.	Gr.
For the treaſury, - -	1	0
Farm of oil and ſoap, called Arrendamento, -	3	30
Cuſtomhouſes of Puglia, for extraction, -	0	75
The cuſtomhouſe's valuation of ſaid oil in the ports ſhould be D. 12 per ſalm, on which ſhould be paid at the rate of 67 G. per ounce of D. 6, which comes to - - -	1	34
	D. 6	39

But this varies, and is now got up to near D. 8 per ſalm. Oil imported into Naples bears a Duty of D. 1 32½ per ſalm.

The high exciſe and farm upon brandies prevents the diſtillation of that commodity from the immenſe quantity of wines that are produced. Moſt of theſe wines would bear long ſea voyages, if the proprietors could afford the expence of good brandy to mix with them. From the high duties a ſmall exportation only takes place of coarſe wines for Holland, and of the Greek wine of Veſuvius for other places.

The produce of ſilk in the kingdom is computed at about eight hundred thouſand pounds weight annually, of which half is ſuppoſed to be worked at home, and the other half exported raw. Double the quantity might be ſold unwrought, and double might be manufactured, were it not prevented by the high duties on exportation, and on importation into the capital, together with the tyranny and exactions of the exciſe officers of the provinces.

The exportation of thrown ſilk, upon an average of many years, amounts to one hundred and forty-eight thouſand two hundred and ſeventeen pounds.

The exportation of raw ſilk from the Calabrias, through the cuſtom-houſe, is about fifty-three thouſand pounds; but perhaps double that quantity is ſmuggled to Leghorn and other parts.

Among the many vexations and impoſitions on raw ſilk produced in the kingdom, may be reckoned the unjuſt proceedings of the deputies of the royal farms, and adminiſtrators of the exciſe, who, as ſoon as the ſilk is drawn off by the poor people from the pods, out of the caldron, weigh it, and note down the weight in a book. When the ſilk is ſold, they oblige the vender to pay the duty upon the ſaid weight, though the ſilk was heavy with water, on a cruel ſuppoſition that they have ſmuggled the difference; ſo that the poor creatures actually pay duty for a portion of water.

A gabel of a grain a pound is even laid upon the refuſe pods, which formerly were untaxed. The duties upon

ſilk

ſilk in Calabria come to forty-two and a half grains per pound, including ſeven grains per pound for a duty called di Biſignano. That of the Terra di Lavoro, Baſilicata, Salerno, and Abruzzo, is forty-one grains per pound: but then there is another duty of twelve grains and ſeven tenths per pound on the exportation of raw ſilk leſs ten per cent. for package, and about ten grains for thrown ſilk leſs twenty per cent. for package, and five per cent. for wet.

No ſmall quantity of cotton is gathered in the Terra di Bari, and the diſtricts of the cities of Turſi and Gravina; but the beſt is in the province of Lecce. Venice takes off a good deal annually, as alſo of the wool.

Almonds abound in the territories of Bari, Lecce, and the Abruzzi; but the beſt come from Bari, where they are exported to Venice and Trieſte. A duty of three ducats ninety four grains per canto ruins this trade.

In Calabria there are natural mountains of ſalt, ſtronger and more active than ſea ſalt; but the mines are ſhut up, not to hurt the revenue, which reaps great benefit by the high duties upon that article. At Naples the gabel is almoſt five times more than the firſt coſt of the commodity in Sicily.

All manufactures ſent from the capital into the provinces, and all that are exported out of the kingdom (though the firſt ſpecies with which they were fabricated had already paid the cuſtomhouſe duties) are nevertheleſs liable to a charge of ſixteen to twenty per cent. called Miglioria. Nothing is excepted but ſweetmeats and chocolate.

The

The duties levied upon the Miglioria or Minutillo, amount annually to ſeventy-four thouſand nine hundred and nine ducats, of which fourteen thouſand belong to the city of Naples, upon the impoſition of twenty-three grains per ounce, and the reſt goes into the cuſtomhouſe, paid upon manufactures.

Conſumption of corn in the city of Naples.

	Tomoli.
In bread for the public, - -	400,000
Maccaroni, - -	160,000
Taralli, or little biſcuits, - -	50,000
Meal at the great market, - -	300,000
Meal at twelve other ſtalls in the city, -	300,000
Fine flour, 95,000 cantara, - -	300,000
For the land and ſea troops, - -	120,000
Charity-ſchools and convents, -	1,200,000
Per annum,	2,830,000
Horned cattle, - -	25,000
Sorrento calves, - -	3,000
Hogs, between the market and other places,	45,000
Eggs from the neighbourhood, beſides what are produced in the city, 60,000 per diem.	
Oil, ſtars of ten and one third rotoli each, -	600,000

There is in the kingdom of Naples a fund of more than fifty millions of ducats belonging to the exchequer, duties, and other public effects. It ought be converted into a public

public bank, bearing proper intereſt; but, inſtead thereof, the produce is in a great meaſure abſorbed by the ſalaries and peculation of the ſubaltern financiers, to the great diſadvantage of the public.

According to the beſt authenticated accounts, the current coin of the kingdom of Naples, in gold, ſilver, and braſs, is between eight and nine millions of ducats, which is not ſufficient for the circulation of a very extenſive commerce: for although the notes of ſeven public banks, eſtabliſhed in the city of Naples, circulate even down to the value of the ſmalleſt ſums, yet the equivalent is paid into theſe banks by the proprietors, or by creditors, in money, as into bankers hands in London, without any allowance of intereſt: and therefore this mode of payment only ſerves for the readier diſpatch of buſineſs, and ſaving of ſome trouble, but does not increaſe the circulation; nor is there any paper iſſued out that bears a premium.

All bills of exchange, court tranſactions, civil, military, eccleſiaſtical and mercantile payments, are made either by bank-bills, called fedi di credito, or by drafts on the ſaid banks, explaining the cauſes at length of ſaid payments, for which reaſon no receipts are taken. The perſon who is in poſſeſſion of a bank-bill or draft, is in rigour obliged to paſs it as his own in the ſpace of twenty-four hours; otherwiſe ſhould the bank fail, the holder of the bank-bill has no redreſs againſt the perſon who paid it him. In this century there has been an inſtance of the failure of a bank, viz.

that

that of L'Annunziata. There is a law ſtill exiſting, though not enforced, which declares, that no payment above ſix ducats ſhall be valid, unleſs made by one of the banks. Theſe banks are at preſent ſeven in number, viz. S. Giacomo, S. Eligio, S. Salvatore, Poveri, Pieta, Spirito Santo, and Popolo. They ſerve as public depoſitories of money; more or leſs they all take in pawns to an immenſe value, at ſtated intereſts, and lend money alſo upon proper ſecurity of lands, houſes, &c.

There is a company of aſſurance, with a jus privativum, which is contrary to the intereſt of commerce. The profits of this aſſociation, in the firſt ten years after its inſtitution, were upwards of ten per cent. and at the end of the next five years, in 1766, roſe to twenty per cent. It would therefore be an advantage for the ſtate, if the number of inſurance-offices were increaſed, as the gains on the whole, though divided, would increaſe alſo. The riſk begins from the moment the goods are put on board, and continues till the arrival of the ſhip, and her total diſcharge of the goods, which is a good cuſtom for the inſured.

MERCHANDISE imported into NAPLES.

From England—Woollen goods of all ſorts, ſilk and worſted ſtockings, hats, tanned hides, lead, tin, pepper, hardware, linens, handkerchiefs, fans, canes, gums, dying-woods, drugs, watches, clocks, mathematical inſtruments,

houſehold furniture, ſalt cod, pilchards, herrings, coffee, tea, cocoa, ſugar, and occaſionally calicoes and Eaſt India goods.

Holland—Cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, pepper, medicinal drugs from the Eaſt and Weſt Indies, fine cloths, particularly the black, called Segovia, linen for ſhirts and other uſes, muſlins, chintz, callicoes, ſeveral ſorts of cocoa, whalebone, tobacco, ſilk ſtuffs and velvet.

France—An immenſe quantity of ſugar, indigo, coffee, dying-woods, verdigreaſe, Levant drugs, cocoa, hardware, ſilk ſtuffs, gold and ſilver, ſays of Le Mans, du roy, cloths of Elbeuf, and all ſorts of women's apparel.

Spain—Sugar, cochineal, dying-woods, cocoa, hides ſalted and in the hair, medicinal American drugs, Jeſuits bark, ſalſapariglia, jalap, balſam of Peru, hippecacuana, cloths of divers ſorts, wine, tobacco, ſnuff of Seville and Havanna, lead, gun-barrels, honey, &c.

Portugal—Brazil ſugars, tobacco, cocoa of Maringan, drugs, hides, &c.

Venice—Books, cordavans, looking-glaſſes, chryſtals and glaſſes of all ſorts, luſtres, coach and window glaſſes, Padua cloths, called Venetian ſays, for the conſumption of the provinces, fine Verona cloths, equal to Engliſh ſcarlet, ſtockings, caps made of wool, fine hats uſed in the provinces, wax candles, white loaf ſugar, fine linen, medicinal and Levant drugs, all ſorts of paints, ſublimate, cinnabar, quickſilver, turpentine, dragon's blood, copper, iron of

divers

divers ſorts of the manufactures of Germany and Breſcia, excellent paper, much uſed in the provinces.

Genoa—American goods from the Spaniſh main and the Portugueſe Eaſt Indies, velvets, iron in great quantity, nails, ordinary hats, wax from Tunis and the African coaſt.

Leghorn—All ſorts of goods, at ſecond hand, from the Levant, Barbary wools, linens of Egypt, wax, and many ſilk manufactures.

Peterſburg—Hides, wax, iron, furs, &c.

Sardinia—An immenſe quantity of tunny fiſh, and white cheeſe.

Germany—Sileſia linens of all ſorts, white and painted, iron of divers manufactures, vitriol of Hungary, chryſtals of Bohemia, large glaſſes for coaches and windows, hats and goods of the new Vienna fabrick, turpentine, quickſilver, hardware, manufactures of Oſnaburg and Nuremberg, copper, tin plates, boards, cloth, &c.

The duties in general upon goods imported into the city of Naples amount to about twenty-five per cent. upon the cuſtomhouſe eſtimation, paying ſo much per ounce ad valorem; which ounce is regulated at ſix ducats value. Sugars and wax, by the new impoſitions, pay forty or fifty per cent. upon the market price. The duty upon ſugar produces about eighty thouſand ducats annually.

SECTION VIII.

March 26th. HAVING received an invitation to be preſent at the opening of ſome lately diſcovered rooms at Stabia, I went thither with a party. On our way we viſited Herculaneum and Pompeii *. We then traverſed the rich plain that lies between Veſuvius and the Sorrentine branch of the Apennines, and came by a gentle aſcent to the excavations. Stabia was a long ſtring of country houſes, rather than a town; for it had been deſtroyed by Sylla, and before the reign of Titus, all its rebuilt edifices were overturned by an earthquake. In the cataſtrophe of ſeventy-nine, the wind blowing furiouſly from the north, brought the aſhes of Veſuvius upon it; all the country was covered with cinders and rapilli, or ſmall pumice-ſtones, many yards deep. Towns, houſes, and trees, were buried, and their ſituations remained marked in the plain by hillocks like barrows. Stabia, though ſix miles from the mountain, was overwhelmed and loſt, till it was caſually diſcovered about twenty-eight years ago. The earthquake had ſo damaged the buildings, that none of them can be preſerved, and therefore as ſoon as every thing curious is taken out,

* I ſhall reſerve for the ſecond volume what I have to ſay concerning them.

the

the pits are filled up again. The aſhes penetrated into all parts, and conſumed every thing that was combuſtible.

On our arrival, the workmen began to break into the ſubterraneous rooms, and, as the ſoil is all a crumbling cinder, very little labour was requiſite to clear them. When opened, the apartments preſented us with the ſhattered walls, daubed rather than painted with gaudy colours in compartments, and ſome birds and animals in the cornices, but in a coarſe ſtyle, as indeed are all the paintings of Stabia. In a corner, we found the braſs hinges and lock of a trunk; near them, part of the contents, viz. ivory flutes in pieces, ſome coins, braſs rings, ſcales, ſteel-yards, and a very elegant ſilver ſtatue of Bacchus, about two inches high, repreſented with a crown of vine leaves, buſkins, and the horn of plenty.

The brow of this hill affords a rich and varied proſpect towards Veſuvius and the gulf.

The company returned to Naples; but I remained all night at Torre della Nunziata, a large village belonging to the princes of Valle and Dentici, and a hoſpital. It was of little note while the high road from Naples paſſed between Veſuvius and Nola, the communication by land along the ſhore being impeded by repeated eruptions. All that tract was for many ages one dark foreſt, ſucceſſively conſumed by fiery torrents, and ſpringing up again upon the old cooled lavas. As ſoon as a road was opened over Herculaneum, the Torre became populous. A manufacture of

fire-arms

fire-arms was eſtabliſhed here by the preſent King of Spain, who attempted to introduce ſeveral others into the kingdom; but every branch that required nicety, patience, and fine touches, failed: that of arms ſucceeded wonderfully; and, in three years, the German artificers, he had ſent for to inſtruct his ſubjects, returned to their own country: for their pupils were become as ſkilful as themſelves.

Early next morning, I hired a ſix-oared barge, and rowed along the coaſt. We paſſed before the iſland of Revigliano, a fine object, that has been introduced into many pictures. My firſt ſtation was Caſtelamare di Stabia, a long town lying at the bottom of the bay, ſheltered to the ſouth by high mountains, that come ſo near the water edge as to leave only a very narrow ſlip for the buildings, many of which are boldly and beautifully placed on the lower points of the hills. The King has a charming villa above the city, formerly a farm of the Jeſuits. The port is ſmall and entirely artificial, more frequented by Latin ſail-barks than ſhips. This place roſe by the ruin of the inland towns. In 1654, the French, under the Duke of Guiſe, took it by ſtorm, and meant to puſh their conqueſts from hence into the heart of the kingdom. Their hopes were ſoon blaſted by a defeat on the banks of the Sarno, which obliged them to reimbark, and abandon even Caſtelamare, but not before they had ſtripped it of every thing valuable. I continued my courſe weſtward under a

bold

bold ſhore: new beauties of landſcape opened upon me at the doubling of every promontory. The firſt change of ſcene was to an uninhabited foreſt, where white cliffs riſe perpendicular out of the deep blue waters: behind them, lofty mountains overgrown with wood. Theſe rocks are calcarious, and furniſh Naples with lime. The ſtones are burnt in the creeks, and the fire ſupplied with faggots cut in the hills, and ſlung down on ropes. Along the ſhore are many ſtrong ſulphureous ſprings.

Vico was my next ſtage: a little city, in a delightful poſition, on the brow of a hill, backed by an amphitheatre of mountains. The ſtrata of theſe eminences incline contrary ways to one centrical point, as if there had originally exiſted a ſimilar maſs in the centre, torn aſunder and ſwallowed up by one of thoſe ſhocks, which muſt have often overturned this unſtable country. Charles the Second and Joan the Firſt raiſed Vico out of obſcurity, on account of the charms they found in its ſituation.

On doubling the next projecting rocks, we entered the ſpacious bay of Sorrento, three miles wide. A ſemicircular chain of woody mountains incloſes a rich and beautiful plain, rather ſloping towards the ſea, full of white buildings peeping out of the groves. This half-moon terminates in a ſtraight line to the ſea, by a bold coaſt of black perpendicular rocks. It probably formed a portion of a circle, half of which broke off and ſunk into the waves. This I believe to have been the caſe, and that the

whole was once the crater of a volcano. All the ſoil of the plain is cineritious, and its rocks a ſtrong blue lava, except near the eaſt end, where they are of a ſofter piperino kind. The encircling mountains are compoſed of regular calcareous layers, that do not join or intermix in the leaſt with the others, but are broken off abruptly all round, as if a place had been ſcooped out for the reception of the heterogeneous maſs, riſing ſuddenly out of the boſom of the earth or waters. Many of theſe limeſtone rocks are twiſted, as it were, into ropes, exactly in the ſame manner as ſome Veſuvian lavas: they have beſides ſo many peculiarities, that correſpond with thoſe of the productions of burning mountains, that were it not directly repugnant to the common ſyſtems of philoſophy, which decide all calcareous ſubſtances to be a ſediment of the ocean, I ſhould be tempted to believe, that fire had a greater ſhare in the formation of theſe rocks than is generally allowed. The materials of the lower grounds are beyond doubt volcanical; however, I am confident that, as yet, we are but imperfectly acquainted with the powers of fire, and the metamorphoſes it is capable of producing. As we have diſcovered, that the fumes of ſulphur and vitriol can change hard black lava into ſoft white clay, perhaps we may find out, that ſome other operation of natural chymiſtry can convert ſubſtances into limeſtone.

I landed at Sorrento, a city placed on the very brink of the ſteep rocks that overhang the bay, in a moſt enchant-

ing

ing ſituation. It contains fifteen thouſand inhabitants, half the population of the whole plain. The ſtreets are narrow; but this is no inconvenience in a warm climate, where carriages are not uſed, nor any communication with the metropolis practicable by land. Of all the places in the kingdom, this is bleſt with the moſt delightful climate. It was renowned for it in ancient times: Silius Italicus extols its ſoft and wholeſome zephyrs *. At preſent, it enjoys ſhady groves, excellent water, fruit, fiſh, milk, butter, the fineſt veal in the world, good wine, and almoſt every neceſſary of life at an eaſy rate. Mountains ſcreen it from the hot autumnal blaſts. The temper of the inhabitants is ſaid to reſemble the climate in mildneſs. A few inſcriptions and reſervoirs of water are all the remnants of antiquity it can ſhew. It derives its name from the reſidence or worſhip of the Syrens †. In this bay, the Prince of Salerno, ſon to Charles the Firſt, was, in 1283, taken priſoner by Lauria, the admiral of Peter of Aragon: a naval victory that inſured the poſſeſſion of Sicily to the conquerors. Here Torquatus Taſſo drew his firſt breath in 1544: a bard undoubtedly intitled to rank in the foremoſt line of modern poets, notwithſtanding the ſarcaſm of Boileau ‡, who, from his ignorance of the Italian

* Zephyro Surrentum molle ſalubri.

† Surenetum.

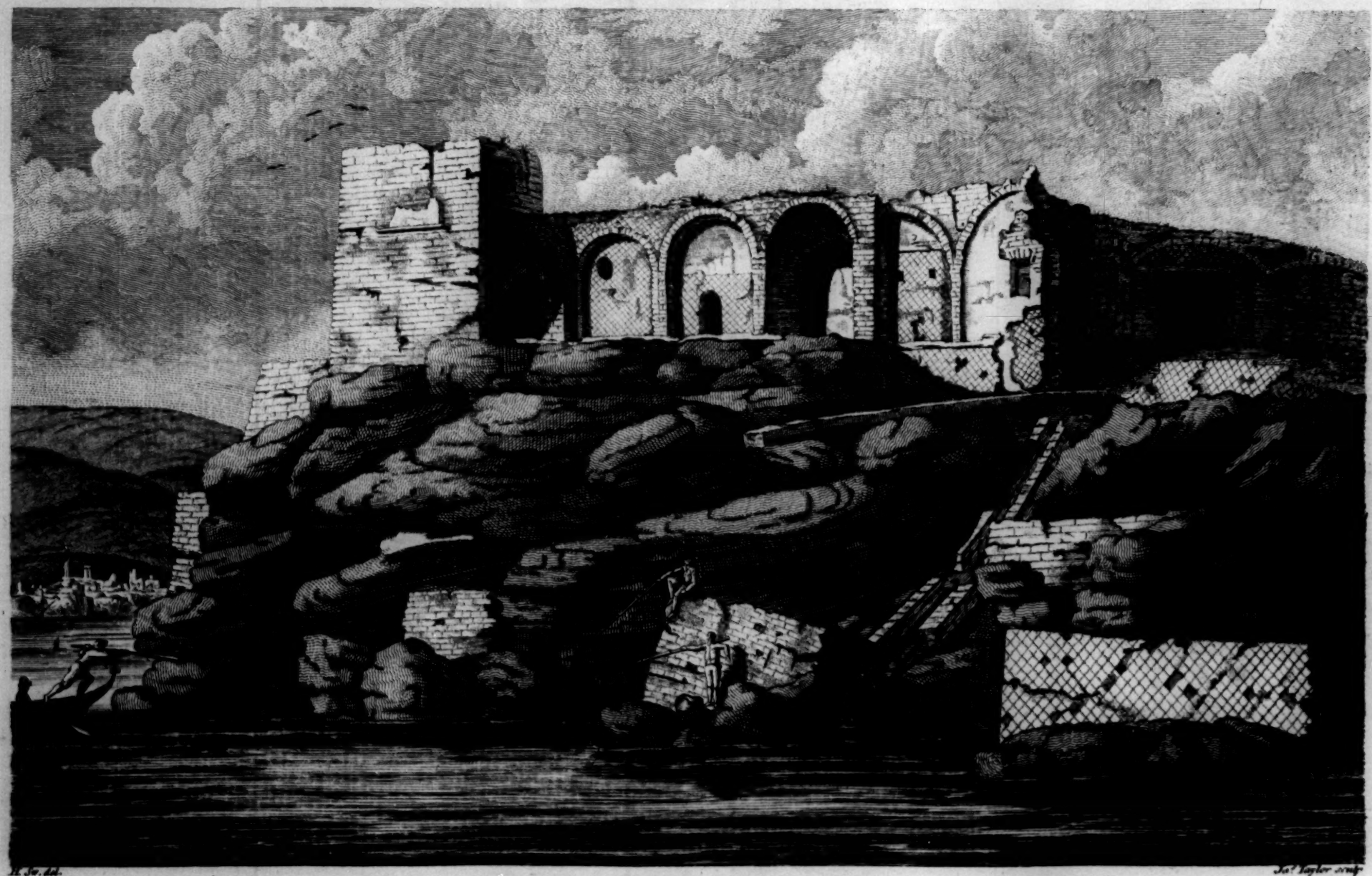
‡ Le clinquant du Taſſe à tout l'or de Virgile.
Prefers Taſſo's tinſel to Virgil's gold.

language, and the coldneſs of his heart, was a very improper judge of the flights of genius. In 1558, the Turks ſacked this city, and carried off twelve thouſand captives; but, preferring money to ſuch a quantity of ſlaves, they ſent to Naples to aſk a ranſom. Diſtruſt, conſternation, or inſenſibility, cauſed their offer to be rejected, and the infidels ſailed away with their priſoners. Soon after, by an act of generoſity ſcarce to be paralleled in any hiſtory, the remaining Sorrentines ſold their lands and goods, and redeemed their fellow-citizens. Had ſuch an effort been made by Greeks or Romans, it would have been a common-place example for ſchool-boys, and every diſſertator, ancient and modern, would have enlarged with enthuſiaſm on this trait of heroiſm; but at Sorrento it is ſcarce remembered, and, I believe, it is entirely forgotten in the reſt of the kingdom.

On the twenty-eighth, I continued my coaſting voyage to Capo di Terra, or Puolo, the point that divides the bay of Sorrento from that of Maſſa*. Here are the ruins of a villa mentioned in Statius's Sylvæ: it belonged to Pollius Fælix, whoſe name is ſtill preſerved in the modern appellation. I admired the exactneſs with which the poet has deſcribed the ſpot; for however altered and diſfigured the minuter features may be, the great outlines of the

* Eſt inter notos Syrenum nomine muros,
Saxaque Tyrrhenæ templis ornata Minervæ.

place



Ruins of the Surrentinum, or Villa of POLLIUS at Capo di Puolo.

Alta Dicarchei speculatrix villa profundi. Statius Sylv.

GR. III.
1822
BRITISH MUSEUM

place are ſtill diſcernible. On the very extremity of the Cape, impending over the ſea, ſtands a row of vaulted chambers, before which appear the veſtiges of a portico *, or hall. Its form is that of an obtuſe angle. Theſe rooms commanded a double view: one of Sorrento and Veſuvius; the † other, of Naples ‡, Puzzoli, and Iſchia §. Part of the painting remains upon the walls. Behind theſe buildings, the promontory narrows into an iſthmus, pierced in the middle with a deep round baſon, into which the ſea has acceſs by a paſſage under the rocks. As the waves have no force left when they enter it, and its opening is ſurrounded by ruins, this was no doubt the ſituation of the baths ‖. Three arched conduits brought freſh water to them ** from a large reſervoir at the foot of the mountain; high rocks, covered with olive-trees, defend †† this place from the boiſterous ſcirocco, and boats find a ſafe

* Per obliquas erepit porticus arces
Urbis opus, longoque domat ſaxa aſpera dorſo.

† Una Diætis
Parthenopen directo limite ponti.

‡ Ingerit
Celſa Dicarchæi ſpeculatrix villa profundi.

§ Hæc videt Inarimen, illi Prochyta aſpera paret.

‖ Gemina teſtudine fumant
Balnea.

** E terris occurrit dulcis amaro
Nympha mari.

†† Monti intervenit imum
Littus et in terras ſcopulis pendentibus exit.

retreat in a circular creek, which divides the Cape into two peninſulas*. From hence I ſailed along the woody coaſt of Maſſa, a dioceſe without a town; for all the dwelling-houſes are diſperſed in ſmall cluſters along the verdant declivity. We lay upon our oars a few hours to take ſome refreſhment, and then ſailed to Naples, where we arrived by moonlight. The evening was warm and mild, and the ſea ſmooth as glaſs; the lights of the fiſh-markets reflected on its ſurface, formed a moſt ſplendid illumination.

* Placido lunata receſſu,
Hinc atque hinc curvas prorumpunt æquora rupes—
Ponunt hic laſſa furorem
Æquora.
Nulloque tumultu
Stagna modeſta jacent.

JOURNEY

JOURNEY

FROM

NAPLES TO TARANTO.

SECTION IX.

ON the twelfth of April 1777, I ſet out with S. T. G. from Naples by the Porta Capuana. We rode our own horſes, but had a chaiſe to carry our baggage and ourſelves occaſionally. A broad avenue of poplars renders this outlet more regular than any other. On the left hand are the aqueducts that convey water to the city, and ſupply ſeveral fountains erected by the Viceroys, in the laſt century, for ornament and the relief of travellers. Above is a beautiful ridge of woody hills, called Il Campo di Lautrec, from Odet de Foix, Maréchal

de Lautrec, who, in 1528, at the head of the French army, invaded the kingdom of Naples, ſubdued the northern provinces, and drove the Imperialiſts into the capital. On the twenty-ninth of April, he pitched his camp on this eminence, and by his approach threw the Neapolitans into the utmoſt conſternation. Their terrors redoubled on the failure of their uſual miracle, the liquefaction of the blood of St. Januarius: a diſappointment, in their opinion, the certain forerunner of ſome weighty calamity. The horrors of famine ſoon began to be ſeverely felt in ſo populous a town, and the diſtreſs was enhanced by the enemy's breaking down the aqueducts; but what was intended for its ruin proved its ſalvation, and the contrivance turned againſt the beſiegers: for the waters, thus diverted from their channel, and obſtructed in their paſſage, ran waſte over the low grounds, ſtagnated in pools, and, through the exceſſive heat of the ſeaſon, corrupted. The putrefaction was accelerated by the fermentation of a great quantity of corn, which Virticillo, a famous outlaw, purpoſely threw into the ditches as he paſſed along with a ſupply of proviſions for the city. From the malignant vapours exhaled by theſe putrid ſwamps, a peſtilential diſeaſe aroſe, which, in a ſhort time, deſtroyed the greateſt part of the French army, and, on the fifteenth of Auguſt, died their brave commander. His remains were interred under his own tent, the ſiege was raiſed, moſt of the French that ſurvived the contagion were taken or put to

the ſword, and few eſcaped to carry an account of the cataſtrophe to their own country.

Were it becoming a reaſonable man to adopt the Neapolitan idea of St. Januarius's blood being endowed with the gift of prophecy, one might ſuppoſe, that its obſtinate induration had not in view the mere event of the ſiege, but rather pointed to a cruel diſeaſe, which made its firſt appearance in our hemiſphere at that period, and in that camp. It is ſaid, that this tremendous ſcourge of debauchery was firſt imported by the companions of Chriſtopher Columbus from the Charibbee iſlands, where it was an aboriginal malady; and that women infected by them were deſignedly ſent out of Naples to ſpread contagion among the French, by whom the infernal poiſon was communicated to the reſt of Europe. But authors differ in their opinions concerning the introduction of this diſorder: ſome incline to give it an eaſtern or Egyptian, not an American origin, and ground their notion upon the inſcription of a tomb in the church of S. Maria del Popolo at Rome*. This monument is erected to the memory of a noble Roman, who died *peſte inguinariâ* in 1485, which is ſix years before Columbus's return from the New World. The difficulty lies in proving this peſtis inguinaria to be really the diſeaſe in queſtion, and not a

* Marco Antonii equitis Romani filio ex nobili Albertonum familia corpore animoque inſigni, qui annum agens xxx peſte inguinaria interiit an. ſalutis Chriſtianæ MCCCCLXXXV. die xxii Julii hæredes B. M. P.

plague

plague that had its ulcer in the groin, as others have theirs under the arm, in the ſide, or elſewhere; for it is an obſervation made by many medical practitioners in the Levant, that each plague throws out its mortal tumour in one particular part of the body upon all patients. If this ſentiment of the lues coming from the Eaſt were incontrovertible, it would follow, that to all the accumulated horrors of tyranny, rapine, and murder, exerciſed by the Europeans upon the innocent Americans, we might add the introduction of a fatal and loathſome diſeaſe, which completed the deſolation of that continent, by deſtroying the few wretches their ſword had ſpared.

On the declivity ſtands the church of Santa Maria del Pianto, or of Tears, erected over the mouth of ſome deep excavations, where the bodies of many thouſand perſons, carried off by a plague in 1656, were brought in carts from Naples, and walled up. This peſtilence far exceeded in devaſtation that of 1528; for, in the ſpace of ſix months, it diſpatched 400,000 people in the kingdom of Naples, although the provinces of farther Calabria and Otranto eſcaped the infection.

An avenue of cypreſſes, ſloping up the hill, gloomily points out the Campo Santo, or Cemetery of the Hoſpital for Incurables. It ſtands loftily, and remote from all habitations of the living, and is moſt admirably contrived for its melancholy purpoſes. Divine ſervice is performed under a ſpacious portico at the entrance, and a high wall

incloſes

incloſes a flagged court, about two hundred and ſixty feet ſquare. Under it are three hundred and ſixty-five very deep vaults hewn in the rock, one of which is in its turn opened each day of the year, to receive the bodies of ſuch as died the preceding evening in the hoſpital. The firſt tenants of this repoſitory were the wretches who periſhed in the great famine in 1764. The tufa, of which the rocks of all theſe hills are compoſed, has a moſt powerful drying quality, and ſoon parches up the corpſes that are conſigned to its boſom.

At the diſtance of one mile from Naples, we paſſed by the ruins of Poggio Reale, a villa built by Alphonſus the Second, while Duke of Calabria. He cauſed to be painted in the apartments the principal occurrences of his father's reign, and took great delight in embelliſhing this palace, which, nevertheleſs, does not appear to have been poſſeſſed of any natural beauties worth cheriſhing. It was vilely ſituated at the foot of the hills, on the very edge of the marſhes that lie between Naples and Veſuvius. The waters of the Sebeto, an inſignificant brook, dignified with the title of river, make theſe lands extremely fruitful, and proper for kitchen-ſtuff; but, in ſummer, aguiſh and dangerous to inhabit. In ancient times it may have been more conſiderable, and received many ſupplies, which the eruptions of Veſuvius have dried up or turned off; but its

ſize has long been very trifling. Boccaccio, who ſaw it in the days of King Robert, pleaſantly ſtiles it a river,

Quanto ricco d'onor, tanto povero d'acque.

As rich as it is in fame, ſo poor is it in water.

We ſoon after left the hilly grounds to deſcend into the immenſe plains of Nola, one entire grove of tall elms and poplars, planted in rows to ſupport the vines growing at their feet, and ſtretching their branches from tree to tree in beautiful garlands. Between the lines, the huſbandman ſows corn and pulſe without any fallow; and, to prevent the land from being exhauſted, raiſes early crops of lupins and beans, which he hoes up before they fructify, and buries for manure. The harrowing and rolling is performed by oxen. This ſcene for a while aſtoniſhes and fills the eye; but, from the extent of the plantation, the ſameneſs of objects, and the total excluſion of all proſpect, it ſoon becomes unpleaſant and fatiguing. The ſoil is a ſandy volcanic loam, in a high degree rich and vegetative. The cloſe ſhade of ſo much wood preſerves it in a due ſtate of moiſture, without which its fertility would be greatly diminiſhed by the heat of the climate; but this ſhade gives the whole country a diſagreeable damp ſmell.

Near a village called Ciſterna, we found maſons at work in a quarry of dark-blue lava, ſimilar to the pavement of Naples. This place is exactly ſituated ſo as to have

have Monte Somma in a line between it and the cone of Veſuvius, of which nothing appears but the column of ſmoke: a clear proof, that theſe layers of lava cannot have run out of the preſent crater, as the height of the ridge of Somma would prevent any matter from being poured over it, unleſs the actual volcano firſt filled up and levelled to the brim the intermediate valley, called Atrio del Cavallo. Every naturaliſt, that is not blinded by the prejudices of ſome ſyſtem formed in his cloſet, and implicitly adhered to in all his reſearches, muſt allow, that it is impoſſible to account for theſe quarries, without ſuppoſing Somma to have been, in former ages, one of the ſides of a much larger volcano than the preſent ignivomous mountain; and that, upon the falling in of that enormous maſs, ſubſequent eruptions muſt, out of one of the ſides, have heaved up Veſuvius as we now behold it.

SECTION X.

WE turned off to the left to ſee Nola, a city that affords little ſcope for obſervation, as the ruins of its ancient edifices are almoſt obliterated. Nothing remains of the two amphitheatres but ſome brick walls, the marble caſing having been taken away by an Earl of Nola to build his palace.

Some anecdotes render its hiſtory intereſting. Auguſtus died here at the age of ſeventy-five years, ſaid to have

been poiſoned in a diſh of figs by Livia, upon his betraying a return of tenderneſs towards his own family; but, methinks, old age and infirmities were ſufficient cauſes for the death of a man worn out with the fatigue of a long reign over a nation of conquerors, whom his cruelty and policy had reduced, from the haughtieſt of republicans, to the moſt abject ſlaves that ever crouched beneath the iron rod of deſpotiſm. His faithful friend and fortunate general, Marcus Agrippa, was ſurpriſed by death a few years before him in the ſame place.

Saint Paulinus, a native of Bourdeaux, died Biſhop of Nola in 431. He was an ingenious poet, and had been Conſul. He is ſaid to have been the inventor of bells by the Nolans, who arrogate to themſelves the merit of having furniſhed ſociety with this uſeful inſtrument; but I rather ſuppoſe him to have been the firſt who introduced them into churches, and hung them up in ſteeples, for the purpoſe of ſummoning the faithful to prayers. Before his time, Chriſtians made uſe of wooden rattles, *ſacra ligna*, to call the congregation together, no bells being allowed by government to a proſcribed ſect. The ancients had bells both for prophane and ſacred ſervice. Polybius mentions them, and we learn by a tale in Strabo, that market-time was announced by them *.

Pliny

* He relates, that at Jaſſicum, a muſician, who had drawn a great crowd of auditors about him, was ſuddenly deſerted by them all, except one man, who

Pliny aſſures us, that the tomb of Porſena, King of Tuſcany, was hung round with bells, and the *Lebetes* of the temple of Dodona were certainly a ſpecies of them. The hour of bathing was made known at Rome by the ſound of a bell; the night watchman carried one, and it ſerved to call up the ſervants in great houſes. Sheep had them tied about their necks to frighten away wolves, or rather by way of amulet. In our days, this cuſtom, like many other ethnic ones, ſerves as a wild ſtock to graft a devout ceremony upon. Bells are now placed under the protection of St. Anthony and others, bleſſed and ſlung round the necks of cattle and ſheep, to preſerve them from epidemical diſorders. Shepherds alſo think the ſound pleaſes the beaſt, and makes it eat its meat with more cheerfulneſs and benefit; at leaſt, this facilitates the finding of thoſe who have ſtrayed from their paſture.

We are told by Lucian, that the prieſts of the Syrian goddeſs had bells, which they tinkled by way of awaking the charity of bigots. I have ſeen many counterparts of theſe beggars in Italy, hermits and mendicant friars, who warn you with a bell, that they are about to make a demand upon your purſe.

who was rather hard of hearing. The performer paid him a compliment upon his taſte for harmony, which detained him after the ſound of the bells had cauſed all the reſt of the auditory to quit the place. "What (ſays the "deaf man) has the bell rung? then the fiſh-market is open, and I muſt "run away too."

Zonaras

Zonaras writes, that criminals going to execution had a bell tied to them, to give notice to all paſſengers, that no one might unawares croſs their way, and by the accidental touching of them become unclean. This ſuperſtition may be the real origin of the cuſtom in England of pariſh bells ringing while a malefactor is on his way to the gallows; though it is generally ſuppoſed to be meant as a ſignal to all hearers, admoniſhing them to pray for the paſſing ſoul. Moſt of our religious practices date higher than we are willing to allow; and, at all events, I cannot be blamed for hazarding an opinion, which, by ſhewing the cuſtom to be of heatheniſh extraction, tends in ſome degree to relieve many tender conſciences, who daily lament, that ſo many relicks of popery are ſuffered to ſubſiſt in this proteſtant country.

According to Suetonius, Auguſtus having built, on the edge of the Capitoline hill, a temple to Jupiter the *Thunderer*, where he was remarkably conſtant in his devotions, dreamt that the *Capitoline* Jupiter appeared to him, and chid him for debauching all his votaries from him; and that he had anſwered the god by declaring, He had placed the *Thunderer* ſo near only by way of porter. In order to make good the aſſertion, the ſuperſtitious Emperor fixed bells under the roof of the new temple, within reach of the door. We may infer from hence, that ſtrangers rang

for

for admittance at the gates of grandees in thoſe days, juſt as they do in ours *.

Giordano Bruni, born at Nola in the ſixteenth century, made a great noiſe in the theological world, by means of a ſmall book, mentioned with contempt by the Spectator, who, in his 389th number, gives an account of it. This pamphlet, under the title of *Spaccio della beſta trionfante*, treats all religions equally as human inventions; laughs at miracles and revelations as ſo many impoſtures rendered miſchievous by the arts of an intereſted prieſthood: it declares the plain law of nature to be the only rule of life worthy to be followed by a being endued with reaſon; beſides many other opinions, which the whole church of Chriſt holds in utter abhorrence, and unanimouſly anathematizes. Bruni reſided long at the court of Queen Elizabeth, under the protection of ſeveral great men; but venturing back to Italy in 1600, was ſeized by the inquiſition, and burnt at Venice.

It is impoſſible to aſcertain who were the firſt people that ſettled at Nola; but its coins prove it to have been at

* Bells appear to have derived their Latin appellations of *Nola* and *Campana* from this city and its province, either on account of its mines of copper (if any ſuch there were), the celebrity of its founderies, or the expertneſs of its bell-caſters. Quintilian is the firſt author that makes uſe of the term *Nola*; before him, *Tintinnabulum* was the common name; and in St. Jerome's time was the firſt appearance of the word *Campana*.

The modern Nolans can boaſt of little ſkill in the founding art; and, indeed, a good ring of bells is a thing unthought of in the kingdom: it does not enter the head of a Neapolitan, that any ſkill can be required in a bell-ringer.

‡

one

one time inhabited by Greeks. They differ in nothing but the legend from thoſe of ancient Naples*.

Nola ſeems to have been a city of conſequence under the firſt Emperors, and to have had a navigable cut that communicated with the Sarno, or the ſea. What makes this idea leſs paradoxical is, that anchors, rings, and other appurtenances of navigation have been dug up near the town. Veſuvius has overwhelmed ſo many more conſiderable objects, that it ought not to excite much wonder, if, at this day, all traces are loſt of any ſuch canal; but, perhaps, theſe fragments of ſhipping ought to be aſcribed to thoſe very remote ages, in which the ſea flowed up to the foot of the Apennine, and ſpread itſelf over the whole intermediate plain.

This lordſhip was included in the grants made by Charles of Anjou to Guy † de Montfort, the companion of his victories, and one of the ſons of our famous Earl of Leiceſter. His only daughter married Raymond Orſino, the firſt of that illuſtrious Roman family that ſettled in

* Numm. Nol.—1. Caput Dianæ.—Minotaurus gradiens victoriâ ſupervolitante ΝΩΛΑΙΩΝ. Arg. Ex Cimel. meo.

2. Caput Palladis galeatum cum lauro et noctua.—Minotaurus ſub. Æ.—ΝΩΛΑΙΩΝ—Ær.

† This Guy was the man, who, in revenge of his father's death, murdered Henry, ſon of the King of the Romans, in the church of Viterbo. After a ſhort retreat from court, and a mock penance, he was reſtored to favour by Charles, whoſe character ſuffered much in the opinion of all good men for this partiality to an aſſaſſin. Guy was at laſt taken priſoner in a ſea-fight by the Aragoneſe, and caſt into a dungeon, where he died.

the kingdom of Naples, where his poſterity afterwards became Princes of Taranto and Salerno, and ſtill remain Dukes of Gravina. Orſo Orſini, Earl of Nola, made a great figure in the wars between the Kings of the Aragonian line and their Barons. His branch failed in 1533; and ſince that time this honour has remained veſted in the crown.

SECTION XI.

WE joined the road again at a village belonging to the Albertini. It is called Cimitile, by corruption from Cœmeterium, the real name, which it received from a great number of martyrs buried here in the ſuffering ages of Chriſtianity. Here begins the road through the mountains into Puglia, opened in 1593, and repaired by the preſent King of Spain. The late learned Canon Mazzocchi compoſed elaborate Latin epigraphes in honour of the undertaking, which are placed upon ſcreens or pieces of wall ornamented in a very bad taſte.

We now entered a pleaſant valley that winds up between hills into the very boſom of the Apennines. Theſe hills advance into the plain like bold promontories, and ſeem to indicate that, in ſome remote century, they were waſhed by the waves of the ſea, till the ſoil at their foot was ſo raiſed by the increaſe of marine ſubſidences, the workings

of underground fires, or the accumulation of cinders vomited out of Veſuvius, as at length to confine the waters to the bounds of the preſent gulf. Cinerated ſubſtances compoſe the interior ſtrata of theſe eminences; but it is a debateable point, whether they were caſt hither in ſhowers by the neighbouring volcano, or thrown up by particular eruptions of their own. The ſurface is covered with thick woods of cheſtnut-trees, a plant I have obſerved to delight in this ſort of ſoil: it grows luxuriantly on Monte Somma, the heights of the Camaldoli near Naples, the Pyrenees near medicinal ſprings, and, in general, in the neighbourhood of ſubterraneous fires; not to mention the gigantic trees that for ages have darkened the ſides of Etna.

On the ſkirts of the plain appear the caſtle and town of Avella, in a delightful ſituation, commanding a view as far as Naples. They gave name to a family deſcended from the ancient Dukes of Auſtria. Rinaldo Avella commanded the army of Charles the Second in Sicily, and gained great honour by his gallant defence of Auguſta. In the reign of Joan the Firſt, the heireſs of the Avelli married into the houſe of Baux, or Del Balzo *. By a grant of Ferdinand the Firſt, Avella went to Orſo Orſini, then

* It paſſed for being a branch of the Viſigothic Balti, a family that boaſted of having given a long line of monarchs to the Weſtern Goths, with the formidable name of Alaric at the head of the liſt. The De Baux accompanied Charles the Firſt from Provence, where they had once poſſeſſed an independent ſovereignty. From his liberal hand they received ample infeudations of

then paſſed through the Spinelli and Cataneo lines, and now gives the title of Prince to Doria of Genoa.

Not far from hence are the ruins of Abella, a place, as Virgil informs us, celebrated for the quality of its apples:

Et quos maliferæ deſpectant mænia Abellæ *.

Some editions read *melliferæ*. Either reading is characteriſtical; for the environs are ſtill as remarkable for the abundance and perfection of their fruit, as for the flavour of their honey. The ancient walls remain in many places, and incloſe a circuit of near three miles. In the middle are the fragments of an amphitheatre, with ſome dens and ſubſtructions.

At a large village, called Cardinale, we came to the head of the valley, and began to climb up a very lofty ridge; the aſcent eaſy, and the road good, overhung with fine woods that ſtretch from the top of the mountain to the bottom, now and then leaving openings for bold rugged cliffs to riſe up in ſhaggy horror along the ſummit. Theſe mountains are rendered famous in Neapolitan hiſtory by the adventurous journey of Manfred, who, after making his eſcape from the Pope, wandered over theſe rocky

of the conquered country; but marriage proved a ſource of much greater riches, and enabled them to vie in wealth, rank, and power, with the Sanſeverini, Marſans, and Orſini. Their race ended with the Earl of Caſtro in Charles the Fifth's reign.

* "And thoſe whom the walls of apple-bearing Abella look down upon."

wilderneſſes, in order to penetrate into Puglia, where he expected to meet with partiſans; and by the ſtill more hazardous paſſage of René of Anjou, who, in the middle of winter, in the darkeſt night, travelled through deep ſnows and pathleſs foreſts, to avoid being ſtopped in his way to Abruzzo, where he was obliged to make his appearance in perſon, to rouſe Anthony Caldora, his moſt powerful adherent, from a fatal political lethargy. René was the father of Margaret, wife of our Henry the Sixth. He was one of the moſt amiable of men; he not only patronized learning in others, but cultivated letters himſelf, with no contemptible ſucceſs for the times he lived in, when ignorance and barbariſm ſtill reigned in France, though Petrarch and Boccaccio had already carried Italian literature to a wonderful degree of perfection. René ſtruggled long with Alphonſus of Aragon before he gave up the conteſt; and, when deprived of every means of ſupporting the war, ſtill kept a large party together by no other tye than the veneration and love with which his affability, courage, and noble ſpirit, had inſpired all that approached his perſon.

Montforte, a village with a ruinous tower, wildly ſituated on the point of a rock, commands the paſs, and an extenſive view into the heart of the Principato Ultra. This inſignificant place, from the ſingular advantages of its poſition, has more than once ſtopped whole armies. Charles the Firſt beſtowed it on the Montforts, more

on

on account of a ſimilarity of name, than the value of the fief.

The deſcent on the eaſtern ſide is ſhorter than that into Terra di Lavoro, as the plains of the latter lie much below the level of the valley we were entering. The landſcape before us was extremely beautiful, being embelliſhed with great variety of culture, enlivened by the whiteneſs of the houſes, and the waters of the Sabato, a clear ſtream, that winds its way through woods and orchards; dark ſolemn mountains overſhadow it on every ſide, except where a large opening lets in a view of the diſtant hills, and of the paſſage to the Adriatic.

The Sabato takes its riſe, at no great diſtance up the vale, from numberleſs ſprings bubbling up through a bed of pebbles, and running together into a pool full of trout. The ſcenery round the pond, and down the courſe of this pleaſant rivulet, is exceedingly romantic, as the wild beauties of nature melt gradually into the more regular features of art and cultivation.

An avenue, near a mile in length, conducted us to the gates of Avellino. The trees are poplars, remarkable for their height, bulk, and cloſeneſs of foliage.

SECTION XII.

THE preſent city of Avellino moſt probably owes its foundation to the Lombards. The firſt of its lords that I find mentioned in hiſtory is Ranulph, who flouriſhed in the twelfth century, was a baron of mighty power, and brother-in-law to King Roger. This alliance did not prevent his heading a party againſt that monarch, whoſe forces he defeated in ſeveral encounters: had not death put a ſtop to his progreſs, he would undoubtedly have ſtripped the King of many rich provinces, and formed to himſelf an independent ſtate, as the Pope and the Emperor had already granted him inveſtiture of the Dutchy of Puglia. Roger dell' Aquila was Earl of Avellino in 1160. It was granted by Charles the Firſt to Simon de Montfort; but he being killed in a duel by Fulk Ruffo, the honour returned to the crown.

The family of Baux was afterwards poſſeſſed of it. The Filangeri had it next by a donation from Charles the Third; and their heireſs having married Sergianni Caracciolo, the famous favourite of Joan the Second, the eſtate came into the family of Caracciolo, in which it remains to this day with the title of Prince. However, it appears to have been forfeited, as Marino Caracciolo purchaſed it long

long after. It is not clear whence the Caraccioli came, nor can much confidence be placed in the ſtories promulgated by ſome authors, who make them out to be deſcendants of the ancient Greeks, Romans, or Goths. A learned friend of mine is of opinion, that they came firſt out of Germany with Frederick or Henry, and theſe are his reaſons: They are never mentioned in any public tranſaction before the time of the Swabian princes. An ancient chronicle ſays expreſsly, that the Emperor Frederick the Second never entruſted the command of his armies or fortreſſes to any but Germans or Saracens; and in the next page ſpeaks of a *Caracſols* as leader of a diviſion of the Imperial forces. Matthew Spinelli of Giovenazzo, a cotemporary writer, furniſhes a ſtill ſtronger proof, by aſſuring us, that Peter Pignatelli rendered himſelf very odious to many families, particularly to the Caraccioli, by adviſing Charles of Anjou, on the approach of Conradine, to baniſh all the nobles of German extraction, as being men of doubtful loyalty. The foundation of their grandeur was laid by the unſhaken fidelity of John Caracciolo, who, being beſieged by rebels in the caſtle of Iſchia, of which he had been appointed governor by the Emperor Frederick, choſe rather to periſh in the flames that conſumed the fortreſs, than ſurrender his truſt. His maſter was not inſenſible to ſuch a proof of attachment, but expreſſed the warmeſt ſentiments of gratitude for his memory; and conferred ſuch honours and riches on his ſons, as raiſed them

to great conſequence in the ſtate. The family has ever ſince been much conſidered by its ſovereigns; and the branches ſent off from the main ſtock have become as wealthy and powerful as itſelf, and are at this day upon a par with the nobleſt and richeſt houſes in the kingdom. Five of theſe branches are proprietors of a very ſingular Bank, called *Il Monte Ciarletto*, which ſecures a noble portion to their daughters, and of late to their younger ſons. The ſtory of its foundation is as follows:—Charles Caracciolo had an only daughter, whom he was determined to marry to one of his kinſmen, that his rich inheritance might remain in the family. This match was contrary to the inclinations of the young lady, who poſitively refuſed to acquieſce in it. Her enraged father ſhut her up in a convent, where ſhe took the veil by compulſion; but ſoon after, in a fit of deſpair, put an end to her exiſtence. Charles, diſtracted with remorſe and grief, did not long ſurvive the child he had uſed ſo cruelly; and by way of atonement determined, if poſſible, to prevent any Caracciola from becoming a nun, at leaſt from a want of fortune: he therefore eſtabliſhed a fund to accumulate for them. When any daughter of the family marries, ſhe receives the intereſts and ſavings accruing from the bank ſince the laſt perſon was endowed. It never has been more than an hundred thouſand ducats (£18,750). A change has lately taken place, through the addreſs and management of a lady married to one of theſe Caraccioli.

The marriage portion of the women is limited to 70,000 ducats, and the remainder of the produce is to be appropriated to the education and maintenance of the younger ſons. The director of this Bank has a houſe, table, and equipage, provided for him. Several ſimilar funds have been eſtabliſhed by aſſociated families, in imitation of the bank of the Ciarletto.

Avellino is a conſiderable city, extending a mile in length down the declivity of a hill, with ugly ſtreets, but tolerable houſes. The churches have nothing to recommend them, being crowded with monſtrous ornaments in a barbarous ſtyle, which the Neapolitans ſeem to have borrowed from the Spaniards. The cathedral is a poor building, in a wretched ſituation, with little to attract the eye, except ſome uncouth Latin diſtichs, and ſhapeleſs Gothic ſculpture. The good people of this town need not run to Naples to ſee the blood of St. Januarius; for they have a ſtatue of St. Laurence, with a phial of his blood, which for eight days, in Auguſt, entertains them with a ſimilar miraculous liquefaction. Their only edifice of note is a public granary, of the Compoſite order, adorned with antique ſtatues, and a very elegant bronze one of Charles the Second, King of Spain, while a boy, caſt by Cavalier Coſimo.

The number of inhabitants amounts to eight thouſand, ſome ſay ten thouſand. The Biſhop's revenue is about ſix thouſand ducats (£1,125) a year. The magiſtracy

conſiſts of a Syndic and four Eletti, all annual; which offices are engroſſed by a certain number of families of ſome diſtinction, that neither intermarry nor aſſociate with the reſt of the burghers.

The Prince has eſtates here to the yearly value of twenty thouſand ducats (£3,750), of which two thouſand ariſe from duties on the dye of cloth, which is made of various qualities and colours, but chiefly blue. The fineſt ſells for thirty carlini a canna, and pays twenty-ſix grana duty of entrance into Naples. This tax is a piece of blundering management, but too common in the kingdom; the offſpring of ſhort-ſighted rapacity, foſtered by government at the expence of all home-trade, and to the diſcouragement of every ſpecies of induſtry. Many wealthy merchants have a concern in this cloth buſineſs, ſome with a capital of eighty thouſand ducats (£15,000). The poor women, who ſpin the wool, muſt work very hard to earn above four grana a day.

The ſecond article of trade is *maccaroni* and *paſte* of many kinds, which, being of an excellent quality, are in high repute all over the country. Wooden chairs are alſo made and ſold here in great quantities.

Avellino abounds with proviſions of every ſort; each ſtreet is ſupplied with wholeſome water; the wine is but indifferent. The ſoil of this diſtrict, which conſiſts chiefly of volcanic ſubſtances, produces little corn, but fruit in abundance, of which the apple is deſervedly held in great eſteem.

eſteem. The moſt profitable, however, of all its fruit-trees is the hazel. Nut buſhes cover the face of the valley, and in good years bring in a profit of ſixty thouſand ducats (£11,250). I enquired into many particulars concerning the nuts, and believe they are moſtly of the large round ſpecies of filbert, which we call Spaniſh. Theſe buſhes were originally imported into Italy from Pontus, and known among the Romans by the appellation of *Nux Pontica*, which, in proceſs of time, was changed into that of *Nux Avellana*, from the place where they had been propagated with the greateſt ſucceſs. The proprietors plant them in rows, and by dreſſing, form them into large buſhes of many ſtems. Every year they refreſh the roots with new earth, and prune off the ſtraggling ſhoots with great attention.

SECTION XIII.

THE women of this neighbourhood are handſome, and take great pains to deck out their perſons to advantage. Once a week they waſh their hair with a lye of wood-aſhes, that changes it from a dark brown colour to a flaxen yellow of many different tints in the ſame head of hair. This I take to be the true *flava cæſaries* of the Latin poets. Experience has taught me to diſcover many traces of ancient cuſtoms in the modes and habits of the modern

Italians. Attentive obſervation will make a perſon, to whom the claſſic writings are familiar, ſenſible of this reſemblance every day he paſſes in the ſouthern parts of Italy, eſpecially if he has opportunities of ſtudying the manners of the lower claſs of inhabitants, whoſe character has as yet received but a ſlight tinge from a mixture with foreigners. He will recognize the *Præficæ* of the ancients, in the appearance and actions of old women that are hired in Calabria to howl at burials. The funeral behaviour and meaſure of grief in the Calabreſe are regulated by the ſtricteſt etiquette. The virtues as well as vices of a deceaſed father of a family are recapitulated by the oldeſt perſon in company. The widow repeats his words, adds comments of her own, then roars out loudly, and plucks off handfuls of her hair, which ſhe ſtrews over the bier. Daughters tear their locks, and beat their breaſts, but remain ſilent. More diſtant relations repeat the oration coolly, and commit no outrage upon their perſons. When the kinſman of a baron or rich citizen dies, a number of old women are hired to perform all theſe ceremonies for the family.

At Naples, the forms are rather different. I was one day witneſs of the funeral of an old fiſherman. The actions of his widow were ſo overſtrained as to be truly ridiculous: ſhe tore off her hair and clothes, and yelled in the moſt hideous manner, till her ſtep-ſons appeared to take poſſeſſion of the goods: ſhe then turned her fury upon them, and beat them out of the houſe. The prieſts now came for the

the body, and ſhe oppoſed their entry for a decent length of time; but at laſt, ſuffering herſelf to be overpowered by numbers, flew to the window with her daughters and her mother (who, from having outlived many relations, had ſcarce a hair left on her head), and there beat her breaſt, ſcratched her cheeks, and threw whole handfuls of hair towards the bier with the frantic geſtures of a demoniac. The proceſſion was no ſooner out of ſight, than all was quiet; and in five minutes I heard them laughing and dancing about the room, as if rejoicing to be rid of the old churl.

In ſome parts of the country, it is a rule to faſt the whole day of the interment. Two women, in a village near Salerno, mother and daughter of a farmer, at whoſe removal from the houſe they had acted their parts with great applauſe, locked themſelves up, and, in order to recover ſtrength after the fatigue they had undergone, began, in defiance of cuſtom, to fry ſome pieces of tripe for their dinner. As ill luck would have it, a couple of relations, who, living at a great diſtance, had come too late for the ceremony, knocked at the door to pay their reſpects to the diſconſolate widow. Great was the difficulty they found in gaining admittance: all the parade of grief was again diſplayed, the dinner ſlipped into a napkin, and hid under the bed, and nothing heard in the room but groans and lamentations. The ſtrangers entered with compoſed mien,

and

and were endeavouring, with little ſucceſs, to adminiſter comfort to their unhappy kinſwomen, when, behold! a dog they had brought with them winded the fry, and dragged it out into the middle of the floor, to the great ſcandal of the viſitors, and the utter confuſion of the mourners, whoſe reputation was irretrievably ruined in the eſteem of the whole pariſh.

The verſe in Virgil,

* Hinc altâ ſub rupe canet frondator ad auras, ECL. 1.

naturally occurs, when, in our walks under the rocky cliffs of Poſilipo, we ſee the peaſant ſwinging from the top of a tree on a rope of twiſted willows, trimming the poplar, and the luxuriant tendrils of the vine, and hear him make the whole vale ring with his ruſtic ditty.

A claſſic ſcholar cannot ſtroll under the groves of the plain, without calling to mind Horace's

† Durus
Vindemiator et invictus, cui ſæpe viator
Ceſſiſſet, magnâ compellans voce cucullum. SAT. 7.

if he attend to the vine-dreſſer ſitting among the boughs, laſhing raw lads and baſhful maidens, as they return from market, with the ſame groſs wit and rough jokes that gave ſuch zeſt of old to the farces of Atella.

* "The lopper ſhall ſing to the winds under the lofty rock."

† A rough and invincible vine dreſſer, before whom the traveller often retired, calling him with a loud voice Cuckow."

The Neapolitan girls dance to the ſnapping of their fingers and the beat of a tambourine, and whirl their petticoats about them. With greater elegance in the poſition, and more airineſs in the flow of the drapery, ſtriking likeneſſes of them may be found among the paintings of Herculaneum.

A young fiſherman of Naples naturally throws his limbs into moſt graceful attitudes; and it was, no doubt, from the ſtudy of ſimilar figures, that the Grecian ſtatuaries drew their nice ideas of beauty and perfection of forms.

If an antiquary longs for a Roman diſh, Sorrento will ſupply him with the paps of a ſow, dreſt in the antique taſte, by the name of Verrina; and I believe Peregrine Pickle's learned friend might, with a little attention, diſcover ſufficient remnants of ancient cookery in the environs of Naples, to make out a tolerable bill of fare.

To this day, the rigging of ſmall veſſels on the Neapolitan coaſt anſwers the deſcriptions left us of ancient ſailing. I doubt whether it be an eaſy matter to comprehend the manœuvres of Ulyſſes or Æneas in their various navigations, without having examined the trim of one of theſe boats; nay, I believe it ſcarce poſſible to enter into the ſpirit of the claſſic authors, without a previous viſit to Italy or Greece. I am certain at leaſt, that my travels on claſſic ground have rendered me infinitely more ſenſible of their beauties, than I ever ſhould have been had I remained at home.

SECTION XIV.

WE made an excurſion, two miles to the right, to Atripalda, a ſmall town built upon the ruins of Abellinum Marſicum, as a great number of mutilated baſſo-relievos, altars, and inſcriptions atteſt. The inhabitants are ſuppoſed to have retired from it in the middle ages, and to have founded the preſent city of Avellino, a ſituation more convenient for traffic. Atripalda, which drives on ſome trade in paper, cloth, and hardware, ſtands upon an eminence compoſed of ſtrata of a ſoft-coloured tufo. This kind of petrifaction has been produced by the cementation of aſhes, earthy particles, and water, thrown out of burning mountains; is generally of a yellow caſt, with fiſſures, and marked with horizontal wavy ſtreaks. I ſaw here a very delicate ſpecies of knot-graſs, called Finello, which grows in the woods, is ſilky, and uſed in ſtuffing pack-ſaddles and chair-bottoms.

In 1501, when the French and Spaniards divided the kingdom between them, the former held their courts of juſtice for the principality of Benevento at Avellino; and, upon a diſpute ariſing between the two nations concerning their claims to the poſſeſſion of the province, the Spaniards ſent their law-officers to hold an aſſize at Atripalda. The French immediately attacked them there, and by this act

of

of hoſtility provoked a war that ended in their own expulſion out of the realm.

This town was firſt held in fee by the Montforts; it was afterwards granted by Ferdinand the Firſt to George Caſtriot, known by the name of Scanderbeg, Prince of Epirus, as a reward for his timely aſſiſtance in 1460, when he came from Greece with a ſtrong force, raiſed the ſiege of Barletta, and diſcomfited the army of John of Anjou: it now gives title of Duke to the Prince of Avellino's eldeſt ſon.

The road was thronged with mules, pigs, ſheep, and cattle of a large grey breed, going to the fair of Atripalda. The current price of a good mule is ſixty ducats (11*l.* 5*s.*); of a pair of bullocks, a hundred ducats (18*l.* 5*s.*).

As we returned very early, it was agreed to ſpend the afternoon in a viſit to the Convent of Monte Vergine, which our guide pointed out to us on a wild mountain, hanging over Avellino, every now and then hidden from our ſight by white clouds that drove along its ſide. The journey to it was rather fatiguing; but the incomparable view it afforded made us pay little regard to the trouble of climbing. We unluckily arrived at an undue hour, which deprived us of the pleaſure of converſing with any of the monks, except an ignorant lay-brother, who ſhewed us the church. Not having had an opportunity of procuring information on the ſpot, I ſhall give a

ſummary of what I have ſince learnt concerning this monaſtery.

In Pagan times, this mountain was ſacred to the Mother of the Gods, who had here a ſumptuous temple, of which four columns of Portaſanta marble * are employed in the preſent fabric. In the muſæum of the convent is preſerved a baſſo-relievo, repreſenting a boy with a cornucopiæ, a ſerpent twined round a fig-tree, and a tripod, emblems of the worſhip of Cybele; ſhe was ſuppoſed to wander through the woods, in ſearch of medicinal herbs for the cure of diſorders incident to little children, and was therefore looked upon as the univerſal mother; Atys, her high-prieſt, pronounced oracles, or gave out preſcriptions, from a three-legged ſtool. Tradition ſays, the mountain took its name from one Virginius, or Virgilius, a great necromancer, who had a garden full of medicinal herbs, with which he compoſed his magical drugs; there is ſtill a level ſpot of ground called l'Orto di Virgilio, and the mountain abounds with vulnerary plants.

Long after Chriſtianity had ſeated itſelf on the throne of the Cæſars, long after the inhabitants of moſt cities had conformed to the ſovereign's mode of worſhip, the wild mountainous parts of Italy remained obſcured by the clouds of idolatry. The Apennine was full of heathens, and from their reſiding in pagi, or villages, the name of Pagani came

* A ſpecies of marble, ſo named from the Jubilee-door of St. Peter's at Rome, which is compoſed of it.

to be ſynonimous to that of Believer in the ancient deities of the empire*. The miſſionaries ſent among them to preach the faith of Chriſt, found no means of converſion ſo eaſy and efficacious as thoſe of admitting ſome of the names and ceremonies of the old church into the ritual of the new one. By thus adopting many tenets and forms of Paganiſm, they reconciled their proſelytes to the idea of exchanging Jupiter for Jehovah, and their lares and penates for ſaints and guardian angels. To this expedient of prieſtcraft muſt be aſcribed many ſtrange devotions and local ſuperſtitions, ſtill prevalent in Roman Catholic countries, which ought not to be confounded by the adverſaries of that church with its real doctrines. All the truly learned and ſenſible perſons of that communion reject, abhor, and lament ſuch depravation; and, were it poſſible to reaſon rude minds out of hereditary prejudices, would long ſince have aboliſhed them.

It was no doubt in compliance with the above conciliatory method, that in 1119 the mountain was reſcued from the patronage of the mother of the falſe gods, and dedicated to the Mother of Chriſt, by William of Vercelli. He retired into theſe ſolitudes to exerciſe upon his youthful fleſh all manner of holy barbarities; and when zeal and

* From an inſcription found at Atripalda, in 1712, we learn that the pagan religion flouriſhed in the Neapolitan provinces after the death of Conſtantine the Great. It relates that the ſenate and people of Abellinum erected a ſtatue to C. J. Tatianus, Conſular of Campania, Prieſt of Veſta and Hercules. He was in office during the reigns of Conſtantine's children.

faſting had well heated his imagination, was favoured with an apparition, that enjoined him to erect a convent on the ſpot. In obedience to the command, he founded this abbey, the mother church of a reform of the Benedictine order. The monks are dreſt in white, and had once ſpread themſelves over ſeveral countries; but are at preſent confined to one houſe in the Roman ſtate, and twenty-ſeven in the kingdom of Naples. Frederic of Swabia was very partial to the Verginians, and inſtituted a confraternity of knights aggregated to their ſociety. Charles of Valois introduced the order into France; but all traces of it have long been loſt there; and we ſhall probably ſoon hear of its abolition in Naples, ſuch a project having been in contemplation.

In 1124, William finiſhed his monaſtery, which was ſoon enriched with relics fit to attract the notice of pious believers; but it loſt a moſt capital jewel of its treaſure in 1467, when Ferdinand the Firſt, under pretence of oppoſing it to the fury of the plague, obtained leave to tranſport the body of St. Januarius to Naples. The roguiſh Neapolitans, having once got poſſeſſion, refuſed to return it to the right owners, who are obliged to comfort themſelves under this misfortune with the coloſſal portrait of the Virgin Mary. It was formerly venerated in Antioch, and preſented to this ſanctuary by Catherine, wife of Philip of Anjou, titular emperor of Conſtantinople. The head of this picture is very old, but the buſt was added by Montano d'Arezzo, a cele-

a celebrated artiſt, to whom Philip gave land near Nola, as a recompence. This image is of gigantic or heroic proportion, and paſſes for the work of St. Luke the Evangeliſt, though the very ſize is an argument againſt its being a portrait from the life, had we even the ſlighteſt reaſon to believe that he had ever handled the pencil. There are in Italy and elſewhere ſome dozens of black, ugly Madonnas, which all paſs for the work of his hands, and as ſuch are revered *.

The concourſe of votaries is prodigious on the eighth of September, the feaſt of the nativity of the Patroneſs. The rule of the Order allows neither freſh nor ſalt meat, eggs, milk, butter, nor cheeſe; and ſurely nobody will venture to bring up any of theſe prohibited viands, if he be acquainted with an inſcription in the court, relating the cataſtrophe of four hundred pilgrims, burnt in their beds in 1611, becauſe one of them had brought up a luncheon of cheeſe in

* The origin of this fable, or rather miſtake, appears to be, that, about the time that paintings of holy ſubjects came into faſhion, there lived at Conſtantinople a painter called Luke, who, by many repreſentations of the Virgin, acquired a very tranſcendent reputation. He was a man of exemplary life, and on account of his piety, and the edifying uſe he made of his talents, was generally known by the name of Holy Luke. In proceſs of time, when the epocha and circumſtances of his life were forgotten by the vulgar, and his performances had acquired by age a ſmoky, duſky caſt, ſufficient to perplex the ſhort-ſighted connoiſſeurs of thoſe days, devotees aſcribed his pictures to the Evangeliſt, who was pronounced a painter, becauſe they knew of no other ſaint of the name, and becauſe, if he had been a painter, no one could have had ſuch opportunities of examining and delineating the features of the holy model.

his pocket. Our guide hinted to us, that if any one were to eat meat here, or even have a little greaſe about his perſon, it would cauſe a moſt tremendous hurricane, and overwhelm the whole mountain with a deluge of rain. Charles, King of Hungary, Prince of Salerno, ſon of Charles the Second, granted to theſe fathers a patent, by which he forbade all ſalt fiſh to be expoſed to ſale in the fair of Salerno, till the agents of Monte Vergine had made their proviſion; a privilege they enjoy to this day.

The moſt ancient monument in the church is a large ſarcophagus, which was made to contain the aſhes of Minius Proculus: King Manfred intended it ſhould be the repoſitory of his own, and placed it in a chapel he had founded in this religious houſe; but his bones are left to blanch in the fields unknown, while the urn remains without a tenant. John di Lioneſſa, marſhal of the Angevine army, obtained a grant of the chapel, which became the ſepulture of his family. Here alſo lie the bodies of the Empreſs Catherine, Mary her daughter, and Lewis her ſon, married to Queen Joan the Firſt.

On the ſecond of Auguſt, 1629, the nave of the church was thrown in by an earthquake, and moſt of the monuments beaten to duſt. The Verginians rebuilt it in nine years, and over an arch of the court placed a pompous inſcription, which contains an epitome of their hiſtory, and may ſerve as an epitaph to their expiring Order.

SECTION XV.

THE traces of fire are ſtill very ſtrong for ſeveral miles beyond Avellino, though here and there the burnt matter is intermingled with blocks of breccia, or coarſe pudding-ſtone, which is a conglutination of pebbles. Perhaps, even theſe have undergone the trial of fire, as it is not uncommon for volcanos to caſt up ſmall ſtones in their natural ſtate, with a quantity of water full of groſs viſcous particles; all which together may conſolidate into maſſes of breccia. This ſort of ſoil extends as far as La Serra, a ſtraggling hamlet pleaſantly ſituated near Monte Fuſcolo.

Benevento being in the poſſeſſion of the Roman ſee, the reſidence of the preſident and civil officers belonging to the Principato Ultra is fixed at Monte Fuſcolo, as being the moſt centrical place among the demenial towns. Its priſons are noted for being conſtantly full of malefactors, which gives but a poor idea of the moral character of the neighbouring inhabitants. They are indeed in very bad repute for robbery and aſſaſſination; but a conſiderable portion of the delinquents are confined for ſmuggling, to which the vicinity of the papal territories is a great encouragement. The ſituation of Monte Fuſcolo is exceedingly bleak, and the proſpect grand over an immenſe tract of

mountainous

mountainous country. Charles of Anjou gave it to Henry de Vaudemont, of the houſe of Lorraine. It has long been reunited to the crown.

The hills are ſteep, but the road broad and well made. Upon a riſing ground, near the inn of Mirabella, it paſſes through the ruins of Eclanum, an ancient city, now called by the peaſants La Colonia*. In the early ages of Chriſtianity, here was a biſhop's ſee, ſince removed to Frigento, and from thence to Avellino. Julian, chief of the Semipelagian heretics, was one of its prelates. It is not known by whom, and at what period, this city was deſtroyed; at preſent, the only remains are ſome mounds, brick walls, fragments of marble columns and entablements of the Doric and Corinthian orders. A little ſolitary farm-houſe has been added to an antique brick front, ornamented with brick pilaſters, that have capitals with one row of leaves. As it ſtands at a diſtance from the other ruins, and much reſembles ſome monuments near Rome, I take it to be a mauſoleum. We purchaſed here a few cornelians and medals of the lower empire, dug up by the huſbandmen.

In the afternoon, we rode ſix miles ſouth to Frigento, by a deep valley, where our horſes were almoſt up to the

* From Benevento the Appian way paſſed through Eclanum (where the Via Trajana branched off to the left), and from thence through Frigento, Venuſia, and Tarentum, to Brunduſium.

girths

girths in clay, though the weather had been long dry. The country for the moſt part arable, and poorly cultivated. Frigento is a ruinous place on a hill, moſt wretchedly built, and ſcantily provided with the neceſſaries of life. Its inhabitants, in number two thouſand, ſubſiſt by the ſale of ſheep, hogs, and corn. In the whole town there was not a tolerable inn, where we could venture to paſs the night; and ſhould have fared very ill, if we had not accidentally met with an old prieſt, who carried us to his houſe in the neighbourhood, where he gave us board and lodging, and entertained us after ſupper with a relation of his own adventures.

He was born in this province, and educated at Rome. He there attached himſelf to a prelate likely to riſe in the church, and accompanied this clergyman to ſeveral courts in quality of ſecretary to the nunciature; but, on his return to Italy, was ſupplanted by the artifices of a colleague, turned out of doors, and reduced for a maintenance to copy writings in a public office. His enemies, not ſatisfied with having ruined his fortunes, cauſed him to be ſuſpected of being the author of a libel againſt a cardinal; for which offence he was ſhut up in the caſtle of St. Angelo, and, after ſix months confinement, baniſhed the Roman ſtate. At Naples he entered into a nobleman's family as ſecretary, and unfortunately becoming the confidant of the eldeſt ſon, a mean profligate youth, was engaged in a nocturnal riot, where he ſaved his patron's life at the expence of two dangerous wounds. The ungrateful

grateful nobleman took no further notice of him, but left him to languiſh for many months in a hoſpital. As ſoon as he was cured, he ſet out on foot, pennileſs and in rags, for the place of his nativity; where, after many years humble attendance on an old relation, he inherited an eſtate, and obtained a benefice, ſufficient to ſupply him with all the neceſſaries and comforts of life that ſo retired a part of the world admits of. This good old philoſopher, who ſaw but little of the people of the neighbourhood, was delighted to ſpend an evening with company that could converſe of Paris, Rome, and other places which he had ſeen in his juvenile days, a pleaſure he ſeldom taſted; but he could not help expreſſing, with a ſigh, his apprehenſions that our viſit would coſt him a few bitter reflections, as it revived ſenſations that had been long lulled to reſt in the bottom of his ſoul.

Next morning he accompanied us four miles to the Moffetta, ſuppoſed to be the ſame as the Amſancti Valles, through which Virgil makes the fury Alecto deſcend to hell. His dark hanging wood, rumbling noiſe, and curling vortex, agree perfectly well with the preſent appearances *.

We were led into a narrow valley, extending a conſiderable way to the ſouth-weſt, and preſt in on both ſides by high ridges thickly covered with copſes of oak. The bottom

* Eſt locus Italiæ medio ſub montibus altis
Amſancti valles: denſis hunc frondibus atrum
Urget utrimque latus nemoris, medioque fragoſus
Dat ſonitum ſaxis et torto vortice torrens. ÆNEID. lib. 7.

" There

bottom of the dell is bare and arid: in the loweſt part, and cloſe under one of the hills, is an oval pond of muddy aſh-coloured water, not above fifty feet in diameter: it boils up in ſeveral places with great force in irregular fits, which are always preceded by a hiſſing ſound. The water was ſeveral times ſpouted up as high as our heads in a diagonal direction, a whirlpool being formed round the tube, like a baſon, to receive it as it fell. A large body of vapour is continually thrown out with a loud rumbling noiſe. The ſtones on the riſing ground that hangs over the pool are quite yellow, being ſtained with the fumes

" There is a place in the centre of Italy under lofty mountains, called the " Valley of Amſanctus. On each ſide a bank of wood, black with thick " foliage, preſſes upon it; and in the middle a thundering torrent whirls " about the ſtones, and curls up its waves."

The Abbé Chaupy, author of an ingenious eccentrical diſſertation on Horace's country-houſe, is of opinion, that Virgil meant the ſulphureous ponds of Cutiliæ near Rieti, becauſe they are more truly in the center of Italy, and ſurrounded by higher mountains; and becauſe, when Alecto blows her horn to call the ſhepherds to arms, he ſays, it ſhook the river Nar, and the ſources of the Velinus, both which are in the neighbourhood of Cutiliæ; nevertheleſs, as Chaupy exhibits no proof that Cutiliæ ever bore the name of Amſanctus, and as the mountains of the Principato are certainly lofty enough to juſtify the expreſſion of " ſub montibus altis," I rather incline to leave the Hirpini in quiet poſſeſſion of this paſſage into the infernal regions.

Venuti, in Monaldini's folio edition of Virgil, gives a diſſertation and print to prove, that the fury went down in a hole at Monte Catino, though he acknowledges there is no peſtilential vapour, nor much wood, in that place. The boundaries of Italy have ſo often varied, that the middle of it cannot be fixed in any preciſe ſpot; and I ſee no reaſon why a place, equidiſtant from both ſeas, may not be ſaid to be in the middle of the country.

of ſulphur and ſal ammoniac. A moſt nauſeous ſmell riſing with the ſteam obliged us to watch the wind, and keep clear of it, to avoid ſuffocation. The water is quite inſipid both as to taſte and ſmell; the clay at the edges is white, and carried into Puglia to rub upon ſcabby ſheep, on which account the lake is farmed out at one hundred ducats a year.

On a hill above this lake ſtood formerly a temple dedicated to the Goddeſs Mephitis; but I perceived no remains of it.

Having taken leave of our kind conductor, we returned to the great road, and travelled eight miles farther to Ariano, over very high naked hills, not unlike thoſe of Upper Andaluſia. Near Grotta Minarda, the Roman road, which Horace followed, ſtrikes off to the right hand to Trevico *, a baronial town on an eminence, which recommended itſelf to our notice, by holding a place in that poet's journal; for, ſince that of the journey from Rome to Reggio, ſaid to have been written by the ſatiriſt Lucilius, has not reached us, we may conſider Horace's fifth ſatire as the prototype of all tours and travels; and therefore every ſtage of it is an object of curioſity and veneration.

* Trevico is a marquiſate of the Loffredi, a family of Lombard or Norman origin. Of this houſe was Francis, who harangued Charles of Anjou on his triumphal entry into Naples, and was employed by that prince in many embaſſies and negociations.

SECTION XVI.

ARIANO is an ugly city, built upon the uneven ſummit of a mountain, with an extenſive look-out on all ſides, but expoſed to every blaſt that blows. We found the ſeaſon very backward here, when compared with the ſpring we had left in the Terra di Lavoro. It does not appear to be ſo old as the time of the Romans, therefore may be ſuppoſed to owe its riſe to the demolition of ſome neighbouring town, and to the advantages its ſituation afforded for diſcovery and defence *.

The firſt Earl of Ariano I find recorded in hiſtory, was Roger, a perſon, no doubt, of Norman extraction: he rebelled againſt King Roger, was taken, ſtripped of his poſſeſſions, and ſent priſoner to Sicily. Charles the Firſt gave it to Henry de Vaudemont; the Sabrans were afterwards its lords; and then the Caraffas, the Gonzagas, and, under Alphonſus the Firſt, the Guevaras. In 1466 it became part of the demeſne of the Crown.

It is but a poor place, without trade or manufactures; having declined ever ſince the deſolation cauſed by an earthquake in 1456. It reckons about fourteen thouſand inhabitants, and no leſs than twenty pariſhes and convents, beſides an ill-endowed cathedral.

* Cluver places Æquotuticus here, without proof or probability.

The

The wine of Ariano is pale, like red champagne, which it alſo reſembles in a certain tartneſs, exceedingly refreſhing in hot weather.

The ſoil here lies upon a ſoft argillaceous ſtone. At a ſmall diſtance to the eaſt, is a bank conſiſting of layers of volcanical earths, interſperſed with thick ſtrata of oyſter-ſhells. The partizans of a watry ſyſtem will account for theſe oſtracites by the ſubſiding and gradual depoſitions of the ſea. Theologiſts will ſeize upon them as proofs and memorials of a general deluge. Others again, inclining to attribute more to the agency of fire, will inſiſt upon theſe ſhells having been pumped out of the ſea by the force of an eruption, in ſome very diſtant age, when the ſalt waters came much nearer the heart of Italy than they do at preſent. It is the opinion of many learned obſervers of the operations and progreſs of Nature, that moſt parts of Italy owe their origin to fire, and that at firſt, only the chain of calcareous mountains called the Apennine, towered above the level of the waters, which then covered all the lowlands. Others carry it ſtill farther, and aſſert, that nothing ſouth of the Alps exiſted ab origine above the ſurface of the waves, but that the firſt eruptions began between the gulphs of S. Eufemia and Squillace, from whence they ſpread gradually, till they had completed the production of all Italy. According to them, after the firſt dry point was fixed, hills roſe upon hills, volcanoes ſhot up in cluſters, and formed an invincible barrier, which for ever ſhut out all return of

the ſea. Man deſcended from the Alps to cultivate the new exuberant ſoil; and the mountains being now far removed from the warm ſteams of the waters, to which they were indebted for their fertility, were abandoned to the wild beaſts of the foreſt. The very name of Italy is by ſome ſaid to imply a fiery origin, or an elevation above the ocean.

One paradoxical writer affirms, that the coins of Magna Græcia allude to theſe revolutions. In the bull of Sybaris he ſees a ſmoking mountain, or a river choaked up by an eruption. The Hercules of Heraclea ſignifies a volcano; his arrows lightning: the aquatic plant, the ſtagnated watry ſtate of the country before the efforts of fire divided and dried it; the ſhell repreſents the crater; the upright vaſe, a lake; the falling jug, an overturned country; and a veſſel with the bottom upwards, the draining of it.

We procured a lodging at the Dominican convent below the town. Within theſe laſt hundred years, their houſe has been thrice rebuilt, having been as often thrown to the ground by earthquakes. The laſt and moſt deſtructive happened in 1732, fatal to all the country that lies along the eaſtern verge of the Apennine. In order to ſecure a retreat, in caſe of future accidents, which from their ſituation they have every reaſon to expect, theſe fathers have conſtructed a ſmall building of wood, the parts of which being joined together with ſtrong iron chains, are contrived ſo as to have a proper play, and by yielding to the oſcilla-

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tory motion of the earth, return eaſily to their equilibrium.

It is remarkable that Abruzzo, Puglia, and Calabria are repeatedly laid waſte by earthquakes, while the ſhores of Terra di Lavoro, though expoſed to the fury of Veſuvius, are ſeldom damaged by ſimilar concuſſions. The iſſue that is given by that mountain to the ſubterraneous fires and vapours, no doubt preſerves the neighbourhood from all violent ſhocks, and the want of ſuch a vent-hole on the eaſtern coaſt, is the probable cauſe of the convulſions that ſo often overturn its cities. A paſſage in Strabo corroborates this opinion, by informing us that in his time Campania was ſubject to frequent and deſtructive earthquakes; and we know that, ſixteen years before the firſt recorded exploſion of Veſuvius, Pompeii, Stabia, and many neighbouring towns, were thrown down, and only in part rebuilt, when the great cataſtrophe of 79 buried them in lava and aſhes. From the ſcanty chronicles of the lower ages, during which few eruptions are mentioned, we may gather that Naples and its diſtrict were continually torn to pieces by earthquakes; except in the firſt efforts of an eruption, they are now ſeldom felt there, ſince the mountain has enjoyed free and conſtant exhalation. Buffon thinks the vicinity of the ſea ſo eſſential to the operations of a volcano, that without the convenience of water, a ſufficient effervescence cannot be obtained in its bowels, and all its efforts to burſt the earth, in order to give paſſage to the fiery con-

tents, become of courſe feeble and ineffectual. According to this hypotheſis, the retreat of the ſea from the Apennine diminiſhed by degrees the force of the volcanoes which once abounded in that chain of mountains; but, by their impotent ſtruggles, they ſtill are able to ſhake the foundations of the whole country, and extend their ravages to a much greater diſtance than Veſuvius ever does in the moſt terrible paroxyſms of its rage.

From Ariano we deſcended very rapidly towards the Adriatic, having hitherto been continually mounting from the level of the Mediterranean ſea; and being aſſured that many robbers were lurking in the foreſts, we took an eſcort of cavalry, not to appear obſtinate and foolhardy, though we gave very little credit to the report. Theſe detachments of troopers are ſtationed by order of government at proper diſtances, to take travellers and merchants under their ſafeguard.

After paſſing over a very high champaign country, the road falls into a deep valley of conſiderable length; at the end of which the Puglian plains and the Adriatic ſea appear like horizontal ſtripes of different ſhades.

Two ſmall towns, Savignano and Greci, ſtand loftily on each ſide of the defile. The latter is a colony of about one thouſand four hundred Albaneſe, who ſtill ſpeak a mixed jargon between Italian and the Epirote language. Till 1731 they followed the Greek rite; but then, by royal mandate, exchanged it for the Latin liturgy.

Our ride now became more agreeable, as we travelled down the pleaſant banks of the Cervaro. Handſome woods clothe the mountains on each ſide from the ſummit to the water edge. Our ſmell was refreſhed by the fragrance riſing from thickets of flowering ſhrubs; and our ſight delighted with the gay bloom of the arbor ſuda, which grows abundantly in this wilderneſs. There is but little timber of any value, moſt of the oaks having been lopped for fuel. The inn at the bridge of Bovino is placed in a cheerful ſituation; but from the lowneſs of its poſition, and the proximity of the woods and water, in the ſummer ſeaſon is ſubject to malignant fevers.

The city of Bovino ſtands very high on the ſouth ſide of the river. This is a dutchy belonging to the Guevaras, one of the Spaniſh families that followed the fortunes of Alphonſus the Magnanimous *.

We continued our journey on the north ſide of the river, through an immenſe woody plain covered with low ſtunted oaks and very coarſe benty graſs. On the edge of this foreſt the King has a hunting ſeat, to which the public is indebted for the noble road his father made from Naples hither. It is a pity the preſent ſovereign does not honour Bovino now and then with a viſit, as repairs begin to be very neceſſary for the roads. Their covering is quite worn

* There are ſtill three other Aragonian houſes in Naples, viz. Cavaniglia, Cardines, and Avalos, which, with Guevara, walk in ſolemn proceſſion through Naples, on the octave day of Corpus Domini, and viſit four altars magnificently decked out at their joint expence.

out,

out, and cut through to the very foundations. Their deſtruction is haſtened by the waſte waters of the fountains erected by King Charles. The conduits are broken or choaked up, and the water runs down the highway, where it forms quickſands and dangerous ſloughs.

We croſſed an ancient Roman road, ſtill diſcernible among the buſhes *.

A few miles to the left, is Troja, built on an eminence out of the ruins of Ækas, a city deſtroyed by Conſtans the Second. Bagianus, Catapan or Viceroy of the province, is ſaid to have founded Troja in the eleventh century, by order of the emperors Baſil and Conſtantine, to ſerve as a bulwark againſt the inroads of the Norman adventurers, and to have given it that name in commemoration of the famous city which by its fall has immortalized the heroes of Greece. It was long accounted a key to the Apennines, and as ſuch was expoſed to many aſſaults and ſieges. The very year of its foundation it was ſtormed by the Germans, and King Roger alſo took it very ſoon after. Scarce a rebellion happened under the Normans, but this place was a principal ſufferer. It is memorable for the overthrow of John of Anjou by Ferdinand the Firſt. Under Robert and Joan the

* It was the Æquotutican, which came through Trajan's arch at Benevento, where it branched off from the Via Appia, paſſed by the Ponte Valentino, under Forum Novum now La Padula, by Æquuſtuticus now Buon Albergo, Ækas now Troja, and croſſing the preſent road from Foggia, ran to Herdonia now Ordona, and at Canoſa joined the way that came from Grotta Minarda and Aſcoli.

First, I find Troja was a fief of the Capuas; in the reign of Charles the Third, Perotto of Ivrea had it; Cavanilla poſſeſſed it after the acceſſion of the line of Aragon; and now it is in the houſe of Avalos.

SECTION XVII.

WE ſoon after left the woods, climbed up the laſt ridge, and then, through a waſte covered with wild pear-trees, deſcended into the extenſive plains of Puglia, which afford a proſpect curious from its novelty, but diſagreeable after the ſurvey of a few minutes.

In the centre ſtands Foggia, without walls, citadel, or gates, though a principal town of the province of Capitanata. It is neatly built of white ſtone, and has two or three good ſtreets. The cuſtom-houſe is a handſome edifice.

This town, with many others on the coaſt, was ruined in 1732 by an earthquake, which has occaſioned its being rebuilt with greater neatneſs and regularity. In ſummer the air is unwholeſome, and all perſons, that can afford to remove, deſert it during the hot months. In winter it is computed to contain about twenty thouſand inhabitants, including ſtrangers. All the large ſtreets and open ſquares are undermined with vaults, where corn is buried, and preſerved ſound from year to year. The orifices are cloſed

up

up with boards and earth; the ſides within faced with ſtone *.

I find little mention made of this place before the coming in of the Swabians. Frederick built a fortreſs here, to overawe the Puglians, and took great delight in this reſidence. His ſixth wife, Iſabella, daughter of John, King of England, died here in 1241. Here, according to moſt hiſtorians, was murdered, by order of his brother Conrad, Henry, ſon of Frederick and Iſabella, to whom that emperor had bequeathed the kingdom of Jeruſalem, with large poſſeſſions in Europe, reannexed in 1253, by this abominable fratricide, to the crown of Sicily. In 1254, Foggia was ſacked by the ſoldiers of the regent Manfred, and hither fled the Pope's legate and army before the victorious troops of that prince. The papal general demoliſhed the imperial palace, and employed the materials to ſtrengthen his entrenchments; but was nevertheleſs ſoon obliged to capitulate. In 1268, the Angevines pillaged this town, with every circumſtance of cruelty and licentiouſneſs. Here Philip, the ſecond ſon of Charles the Firſt, was married with great ſolemnity to the Princeſs of Morea, and here alſo he ſoon after died. A general of the King of Hungary abandoned it in 1350 to his ſoldiers, who found in it immenſe booty, as Foggia was at that time the moſt opulent place in Puglia. Its conſequence, both in ancient and modern times, has been, and ſtill is, owing to its being a

* From theſe holes, or *foſſe*, comes the word Foggia.

ſtaple

ſtaple for corn and wool, and to a tax or regiſter office, known by the name of the *Tribunale della dogana della mena delle pecore di Puglia*; i. e. "The cuſtom-houſe for the toll of the ſheep that paſs to and from Puglia." It is managed by a governor, auditor, and two advocates, and has the diſtribution of a fixed aſſeſſment upon all ſheep that deſcend in autumn from the mountains of Abruzzo, into the warm plains of Puglia, where they yean, and in May return to the high country.

We have the authority of Varro and others for aſcribing the invention of this duty to the ancient Romans; who, on ſubduing the Italian ſtates, were wont to allot the improved lands to colonies of their own citizens, while they left the original poſſeſſors the uſe of the waſtes and leſs cultivated tracts, under the obligation of paying a tenth of the produce of the corn-lands, and a fifth of all other fruits. Breeders of cattle and ſheep were to compound with the cenſors, who every year hung out a table of the conditions on which they propoſed to leaſe out the public paſtures. A liſt of the ſheep intended to be ſent to graze thereon was given in, and a proper allotment of land aſſigned, according to their number and the goodneſs of the paſturage: this was called Scriptuarius Ager. In later times, the Emperors appropriated all ſuch common lands to themſelves, and cauſed them to be conſidered as their peculiar royalties. Varro ſays, ſheep were driven out of Apulia into Samnium before ſummer, and on their paſſage were obliged to be declared

(profiteri)

(profiteri) to the publican. We gather from Odofredus of Beneventum, a writer of the thirteenth century, that this duty was not loſt in that age; but in the two following ones the paſſage ſeems to have become quite free, and the paſtures of Puglia open without fee to all ſhepherds that choſe to bring down their flocks.

Alphonſus the Firſt, foreſeeing an immenſe acceſſion to the royal revenue from the proper management of ſuch cuſtoms, but at the ſame time being deſirous of avoiding every ſhadow of coercive legiſlation and tyranny in the re-eſtabliſhment of them, deputed Francis de Montubler to treat with the graziers and ſheep-maſters of Abruzzo, and the land-owners of Puglia. This intelligent miniſter diſpoſed the minds of thoſe he had to deal with ſo favourably, that he brought them to terms of great advantage to the crown, and preſent profit to themſelves. The King engaged to ſupply the breeders with a new fine race of ſheep imported from Spain*; to provide winter paſturage for ſeven months, and a convenient road, called the Tratturo, ſixty paces wide, for the paſſing and repaſſing of the flocks; freedom from all royal tolls, and other dues;

* It is affirmed by the annotator on Deliciæ Tarentinæ, that they were propagated from ſome ſheep ſent as a preſent by Edward of England to a John of Aragon. Rapin ſays, Edward the Fourth was blamed by the nation for giving away ſheep, and thereby improving the Spaniſh wool, to the detriment of the Engliſh ſale; but Edward the Fourth reigned after the death of Alphonſus, and therefore it is likely Edward the Third was the donor, as he was a cotemporary and in league with John the Firſt of Aragon.

guards and protection from all aſſaults and diſturbances, and materials for their huts and folds at reaſonable prices, and on credit. He bound himſelf to compel all barons and bodies corporate, on the route, to furniſh herbage for the ſheep during twenty-four hours, and to compound moderately for all demands at bars and bridges.

The Crown not being poſſeſſed of a ſufficient range of paſture for the great flocks expected down from Abruzzo, Montubler purchaſed of the Puglian proprietors as much more as was deemed adequate to the purpoſe. The purchaſe, or rather perpetual leaſe, was only made for ſeven months in the year, during which time no other ſheep or cattle are allowed to feed in the plains; and in caſe of failure of herbage, the Crown reſerved a power of compelling all ſubjects to let a leaſe of ſuch graſs lands as might be wanted to make up the deficiency, and to abide by the evaluation of its officers. The ancient owners ſtill continue abſolute maſters of the ſoil, and may diſpoſe of the ſummer herbage as they think proper, and at all times turn ſwine into the woodlands. For all theſe leaſed grounds, the King agreed to pay for ever thirteen thouſand nine hundred and twelve ducats a year, to ſtand all riſks and loſſes, and to defray all expences attending the collection, which are computed at about fourteen thouſand four hundred and thirty-four ducats more. Theſe royal paſtures are bounded by ſtones, and known by the name of *Tavoliere*. They extend ſixty miles in length, and thirty

in breadth, divided into twenty-three old lots, and twenty new ones, capable in all of feeding one million two hundred thouſand ſheep.

In return for all theſe attentions on the part of the King, the ſhepherds of Abruzzo bound themſelves for ever, to deſcend from the mountains every year, to ſubmit to the juriſdiction, parcelling powers, and penalties pronounced by the Dogana, and to pay, for every five ſcore of ſheep, the ſum of eight Venetian crowns, equal to eight Neapolitan ducats and four taris. The Crown has ſince, by a ſtretch of prerogative, raiſed the duty twice: once, in 1556, to twelve crowns; and a ſecond time, in 1709, to thirteen ducats and twenty grana. The allotment for each flock was to be declared in November, and no agreement to be for a longer term than one ſeaſon. The ſhepherds were to provide themſelves with every neceſſary, and not to have a power of ſelling any wool, lambs, cheeſe, or other commodity produced during their winter reſidence, in any fair but that of Foggia, where they were to be depoſited in the royal magazines, and not touched without a permit. By way of compenſation, no wools in the kingdom were to be ſuffered to be brought to market, till thoſe at Foggia were vended, the duties paid, and the tribunal ſatisfied for all its demands.

This Dogana is one of the richeſt mines of wealth belonging to the crown of Naples, and with proper economy is capable of a great annual increaſe, provided no epidemi-

cal diſtemper attack the flocks. Its advantages were ſo well known in 1500, when Lewis and Ferdinand made a partition of the kingdom, that it was agreed to halve the profits between them; and when the French attempted to evade this contract, by ſtopping the ſheep and cattle at San Severo, before they reached the uſual place of enregiſtering, the Spaniards thought themſelves juſtifiable in attacking the French tax-gatherers, and diſperſing both collectors and flocks. Soon after its inſtitution, the Dogana cleared ſeventy-two thouſand ducats. In 1536, one million forty-eight thouſand three hundred and ninety-ſix ſheep, and fourteen thouſand four hundred cattle, produced ſeventy-two thouſand two hundred and fourteen ducats. In 1680, the profits were one hundred fifty-five thouſand eight hundred and ſixty-three. In 1700, they amounted to two hundred ſeventy-two thouſand and ſeventy-ſeven. In 1730, the tax produced two hundred thirty-five thouſand and ſeventy-two. At preſent, the net profit ariſing to the King from the letting of the paſtures is about forty thouſand ducats; but, with the duties upon wool, tallow, &c. amounts to four hundred thouſand. The produce did not exceed two hundred and eighty-one thouſand before the late Governor, the Marquis Granito, was ſent thither; and all the increaſe is owing to his talents in financiering. Competent judges have aſſured me, it would be no difficult matter to raiſe it to half a million of ducats.

The

The commodities of Foggia are corn, cheeſe, and wool. The wool is bought up by the French and other foreigners; and therefore but a ſmall advantage accrues to the province in compariſon with what it might reap, were the materials employed at home. With judicious management, this country might carry on a very extenſive trade, and attain the proſperity intended for it by the all-bounteous views of Providence, whoſe partiality has been counteracted, as much as poſſible, by the blunders and tyranny of man.

In the famine of 1764, inſtead of encouraging the farmers of Puglia to throw a ſeaſonable ſupply of corn into Naples, by the offer of a good price and ſpeedy payment, the miniſtry ſent ſoldiers into the province to take it by force, and drive the owners before them, like beaſts of burden, laden with their own property. Such as were unwilling to part with it by compulſion, and upon ſuch hard terms, carried their corn up into the hills and buried it. If any were detected in theſe practices, they were hanged.

On account of the great variety of field ſports to which the adjacent hills and plains are peculiarly adapted, this town was a favourite habitation of the German princes; but ſtill more ſo of their enemy Charles the Firſt, who erected here a ſumptuous palace, with gardens and orchards, in which he was ſo curious, as to keep a liſt of all the fruit-trees planted in them. Here he died on the ſeventh of January, 1285, as he was on his way to Brindiſi, to haſten an armament againſt Sicily. Charles was long accounted,

with reaſon, the moſt fortunate of men; but the laſt years of his life were darkened with ſuch a cloud of diſaſters, as rank him among the moſt miſerable. They broke his proud heart, and cauſed him to exclaim, in the bitterneſs of his ſoul, "O God! thou who haſt carried me up to the "pinnacle of glory and proſperity, withdraw not thy hand! "or if I am to be precipitated, let not my fall be ſo rapid "and headlong, but humble me by degrees!"—A fever put an end to his anguiſh, but not without ſome ſuſpicions of his having haſtened his death by laying violent hands upon himſelf. This ſovereign was endowed with great qualities, overbalanced by moſt crying vices. In his perſon he was tall and robuſt; a dark complexion, and prominent noſe, gave his countenance an air of ferocious majeſty. Undaunted courage, profound knowledge of the military art, inviolable attachment to his word, unbounded generoſity, watchfulneſs and patience under fatigue, form the outlines of his portrait on the fair ſide, and juſtify the title given him by his rival Don Pedro, King of Aragon, of the *Mejor caballero del mundo.* But if we turn the canvas, we ſhall behold a man ſour and gloomy in his diſpoſition, unbridled in his paſſions, unjuſt in his purſuits, devoured by ambition, rapacious in the acquiſition of wealth, vindictive, bloody, and ſteeled againſt every ſentiment of humanity: in one word, a great bad prince, mean enough to treat with indignity the mangled remains of the gallant Manfred, and juridically to murder the innocent Conradine, whoſe tender

tender years and amiable faculties would have excited pity in almoſt any other breaſt.

We were for ſome time at a loſs for lodgings, as all the inns, which are but ſorry places of accommodation, were occupied by people drawn hither by the approaching Fair. On this occaſion Foggia becomes a place of great reſort and gaiety, even for the Neapolitan nobility. They come hither to exerciſe their dexterity at play upon the purſes of the leſs expert country gentlemen, whom they commonly ſend home ſtripped of the ſavings of a whole year. This paſſion for gaming rages with wonderful violence over all the kingdom, and is a plague that never dies, though it may intermit, nor is there any lazaretto to check its progreſs.

SECTION XVIII.

OUR next ſtage was to Manfredonia, twenty miles through a flat paſture covered with aſphodels, thiſtles, wild artichokes, and fennel-giant; of the laſt are made bee-hives and chair-bottoms; the leaves are given to aſſes, by way of a ſtrengthener, and the tender buds are boiled and eaten as a delicacy by the peaſants. This plant covers half the plain, and riſes to ſuch a height, that there is an inſtance, in one of the wars between France and Spain, of the Spaniards having marched through it undiſcovered cloſe

up to the French entrenchments. The artichokes are given to buffaloes.

A few miles from Foggia are ſome faint traces of walls ſaid to be thoſe of Arpi or Argyripæ, once the capital of a kingdom founded by Diomed after the ſiege of Troy. The ſtory of this hero was univerſally admitted by the ancients, and adopted by Virgil:

Ille urbem Argyripam, patriæ cognomine gentis,
Victor Gargani condebat Japygis arvis *. ÆNEID. lib. 11.

The coins † of this city, which are of Greek type, are not very rare: they uſually bear the impreſſion of a wild boar, perhaps an alluſion to that of Calydon, the place their founder came from.

On the left lies Aprocina ‡, a poor ruinous hamlet, that owes its origin to a frolic of the Emperor Frederick. He was paſſionately fond of the chace, and happened one day to kill a wild boar of extraordinary magnitude upon this very ſpot. He had it immediately cut up and dreſſed, and

* "Being victorious, he built, in the fields of the Japygian Garganus, a "city, and called it Argyripa, from the name of his native country."

† Nummi Arpanorum.

AUR. 1. Caput Cereris. ſpica. ΑΡΠΑΝΩΝ.=Equus. ſtella et luna, ΔΑΕΟΥ.
ARG. 1. Cap. galeat.=Tres ſpicæ. ΑΡΠΑ.
2. Cap. Cereris diota.=Equus. galea. ſtella ΔΑΕΟΥ.
ÆR. 1. Cap. Jovis. fulmen. ΔΑΕΟΥ =Aper currens. haſta ΑΡΠΑΝΩΝ.
2. Equus ΑΡΠΑΝΟΥ.=Taurus ΠΟΥΛΑΙ.
3. Equus. ΑΡΠΑΝΩΝ.=Taurus ΔΑΕΟΥ.
4. Spica.=Aper.

‡ Zannoni marks this place among the mountains of Garganus; but the Chronicle ſays expreſsly it was in the plain.

ſat

ſat down with his company to ſup upon the noble game. The flow of ſpirits, inſpired by the ſucceſs of the day, and heightened by wine and good fellowſhip, made him wiſh to perpetuate the remembrance of his convivial pleaſures by erecting a palace here, which he called Apricena, from the two Latin words that ſignify a wild boar, and ſupper. Inhabitants gathered round the imperial reſidence, and formed a ſmall town, which flouriſhed and fell with the fortunes of the houſe of Swabia.

On our approach to the ſea, we came to a more barren ſoil, a mere heap of pebbles, except ſome ſmall patches, where labour and perſeverance have forced vines and corn to grow. A mile from the ſhore ſtood the city of Sipontum, of which, except a part of its Gothic cathedral, ſcarce one ſtone remains upon another.

Diomed is ſuppoſed by Strabo to have been the founder of this place, called by the Greeks ΣΗΠΙΟΥΝΤΟΣ, from the great quantity of cuttle fiſh that are caſt up on the coaſt. In the early ages of Chriſtian hierarchy, a biſhop was fixed in this church; but, under the Lombards, his ſee was united to that of Beneventum. Being again ſeparated, Sipontum became an archiepiſcopal dioceſe in 1094, about which time it was ſo ill treated by the Barbarians, that it never recovered its ſplendour, but ſunk into ſuch miſery, that in 1260, it was a mere deſert, from the want of inhabitants, the decay of commerce, and the inſalubrity of the air. Manfred having taken theſe circumſtances into conſi-

deration, began in 1261 to build a new city on the ſea-ſhore, to which he removed the few remaining Sipontines. His colony was named Manfredonia, and people were encouraged to ſettle in it by many eſſential privileges and exemptions. In order to found it under the moſt favourable auſpices, he called together all the famous profeſſors of aſtrology (a ſcience in which both he and his father placed great confidence), and cauſed them to calculate the happieſt hour and minute for laying the firſt ſtone. He himſelf drew the plans, traced the walls and ſtreets, ſuperintended the works, and by his preſence and largeſſes animated the workmen to finiſh them in a very ſhort ſpace of time. The port was ſecured from ſtorms by a pier, the ramparts were built of the moſt ſolid materials, and in the great tower was placed a bell of ſo conſiderable a volume as to be heard over all the plain of Capitanata, in order to alarm the country in caſe of an invaſion. Charles of Anjou afterwards removed the bell to Bari, and offered it at the ſhrine of Saint Nicholas, as a thankſgiving for the recovery of one of his children.

In ſpite of all the precautions taken by Manfred to ſecure a brilliant deſtiny to his new city, neither his pains, nor the horoſcopes of his wizards, have been able to render it opulent or powerful. At preſent, it ſcarce muſters ſix thouſand inhabitants, though moſt of the corn exported from the province is ſhipped off here, and a direct trade carried on with Venice and Greece, for which reaſon there is a lazaretto

retto eſtabliſhed; but from ſome late inſtances we may gather, that if the kingdom of Naples has for many years paſt remained free from the plague, it is more owing to good luck, and the very trifling communication with Turkey, than to the vigilance or incorruptibility of the officers of this port.

In 1620, the Turks landed and pillaged Manfredonia.

All ſorts of vegetables abound here, for flavour and ſucculency infinitely ſuperior to thoſe raiſed by continual waterings in the cineritious ſoil of Naples; lettuce in particular is delicious; fiſh plentiful and cheap; the rocky ſhore covered with ſhell-fiſh, alga, and balls called *pila marina*, which are nothing more than a conglomeration of the finer fibres of ſubmarine roots detached from their plants, and rolled up by the undulating motion of the water; of theſe fibres a delicate paper has been obtained by an experimental philoſopher, whoſe ſtudies in natural hiſtory are always directed by patriotic views, and the hope of ſtrikeing out diſcoveries of public utility.

April the nineteenth, we rode along the ſhore to the north-eaſt, for three miles, through a well cultivated tract of good land, till we arrived at the foot of Mount Garganus. This ridge of mountains, almoſt entirely compoſed of breccia, forms a very large promontory advancing into the Adriatic ſea, and ſeparated from the Apennines on the weſt by the plains of Lucera and San Severo. Moſt geographers make it a continuation of the great chain of mountains that runs

down the middle of Italy, but in this point, as well as in many others concerning theſe provinces, I have had opportunities of diſcovering errors in the beſt maps; nor am I acquainted with one that can be implicitly relied upon with regard to the Neapolitan dominions. Few perſons travel to make obſervations on the ſpot, and therefore moſt of them are under the neceſſity of adopting the miſtakes of their predeceſſors, as they have no means of coming at better information. The four-ſheet map of the kingdom of Naples, drawn at Paris by Zannoni, under the direction of the counſellor Abbate Galiani, is certainly the beſt and moſt ample of any yet publiſhed; but as it was put together from memory, combination of different obſervations, and old maps, it is not ſurpriſing that it ſhould not be exempt from errors *. It is to be lamented, that with ſuch a numerous body of engineers in times of profound peace, the Neapolitan miniſtry ſhould not employ a few of them in the uſeful taſk of making topographical and marine charts of their own country and coaſts. The public ſpirit of a Dominican friar †, who, at his own riſk and expence, has cauſed the whole extent of coaſt from Reggio to Naples to be drawn and engraved, ſhould methinks excite the emulation, and pique the pride, of thoſe that preſide over the affairs of this realm.

* Zannoni has lately been prevailed upon to come to Naples, and is actually employed in ſurveying the kingdom. We may, therefore, expect a better map of the Two Sicilies.

† F. Antonio Minaſi.

For more than an hour we climbed up a very rugged rocky path, through thickets of pine, juniper, cyſtus, lentiſcus, and other ſtrong ſcented plants; at length we reached the top of the mountain that overhangs the bay of Manfredonia, and arrived at the dirty ill built city of Sant' Angiolo, which contains about ſix thouſand ſavage-looking inhabitants. We were accommodated with lodgings at the Carmelite friars, who very politely procured us refreſhments in great abundance; we found the flavour of their mutton exquiſite, and were told that meat of all kinds was equally delicate in this diſtrict.

After dinner one of the friars conducted us to the ſanctuary, which is a cavern in the face of the rock; a grove of aged trees overſhades the approach, and on their boughs are ſlung flat ſtones drilled through, and hung up by the pilgrims, either as proofs of their having fulfilled their vow, or in conſequence of ſome whimſy of devotion, as the Pagans uſed to ſuſpend little maſks or images on the branches of trees in honour of Bacchus.

Oſcilla ex alta ſuſpendunt mollia pinu *. VIRG. Geor. 2.

Through a gothic porch we were led down a flight of fifty-five ſteps of coarſe-grained marble, on which votaries have traced the outlines of their hands and feet. At the bottom, we paſſed into a damp gloomy grotto, the chapel of the Archangel Michael: his ſtatue is of the common ſoft ſtone

* "They hang waxen maſks upon the lofty pine."

of the country, and, with all the reſt of the decorations, below criticiſm.

The hiſtory of this church is as follows: In the days of Pope Gelaſius the Firſt, about the year 491, St. Michael is ſaid to have appeared to one Laurence in the caverns of Mount Garganus, and to have ſuggeſted to him meaſures for obtaining a complete victory over the enemies of his country, and delivering Sipontum, then beleaguered by the barbarians. The viſion made a great noiſe in the Chriſtian world, and ſoon gained ſuch credit with the pious part of it, that altars and churches were erected in numberleſs places in honour of this Generaliſſimo of the celeſtial hoſt; but none was reſorted to with ſo much fervour, none ſo enriched with the preſents of the faithful, as the chapel conſecrated upon the identical ſpot where the ſpirit was ſaid to have ſtood. The riches laviſhed upon it by the Greeks allured the Lombards, who took the town and ſtripped it of all its treaſures. In 1460, Ferdinand the Firſt ſtormed this place (the inhabitants of which had joined his adverſaries), and plundered the church of an incredible ſtore of wealth belonging to the ſanctuary, or to the rebels of the neighbourhood, who had depoſited their valuable property here, as in a place of inviolable ſecurity. The King carried it off, and coined the ſilver into crown pieces of St. Angelo, which, on one ſide, bore his image, and on the reverſe, that of St. Michael, with the legend JUSTA TUENDA. Pontanus, his ſecretary, who muſt be allowed to be good authority, though,

though, from the known character of the Prince, the fact is rather improbable, aſſures us, that at the peace every thing was reſtored to the chapel exactly in the ſame form and to the ſame amount. Since that epocha, this ſanctuary has been little talked of beyond the circuit of a few miles, and only pilgrims of a mean rank now frequent Monte St. Angelo; for great and munificent votaries have for theſe two laſt centuries flocked to Loretto.

In the firſt partition of the Norman conqueſts, Garganus and Sipontum were aſſigned to Ranulph of Averſa. Joan of England, wife to William the Good, had this manor ſettled on her as a jointure, and afterwards it formed part of Manfred's appanage.

It was beſtowed upon the famous Scanderbeg by Ferdinand the Firſt, and at preſent belongs to Grimaldi Prince of Gerace.

Next morning we took a pleaſant ride into the heart of the mountains, through ſhady dells and noble woods, which brought to our minds the venerable groves that in ancient times bent with the loud winds ſweeping along the rugged ſides of Garganus. There is ſtill a reſpectable foreſt of evergreen and common oak, pitch pine, horn beam, cheſnut and manna-aſh; ſtill

* ——————Aquilonibus
Querceta Gargani laborant,
Et foliis viduantur orni.—— HOR.

* The oak woods of Garganus groan beneath the northern blaſts, and the aſhes are ſtripped of their leaves by the tempeſt.

The

The ſheltered vallies are induſtriouſly cultivated, and ſeem to be bleſt with an excellent ſoil, and luxuriant vegetation; the graſs is ſhort and fine.

After a delightful wandering excurſion, we ſat down to dinner on the moſs by the ſide of a clear brook that tumbles down the rocks, and loſes itſelf among the buſhes †. Our repaſt finiſhed, we returned to St. Angelo, and next morning croſſed the plain to Lucera, which ſtands on a knoll detached from the Apennine, commanding an almoſt boundleſs view of ſea and land.

† Not many miles north of this place is Iſchitella, a town, that in 1676, gave birth to Peter Giannone, the moſt celebrated writer of Neapolitan hiſtory. He was an advocate at Naples, and intended his work rather as a diſſertation on the laws and civil tranſactions of his country, than as a chronicle of its wars and revolutions; but even, according to this plan, it is imperfect in the execution, for he paſſes over many capital points in ſilence, or at beſt, touches upon them in a very ſuperficial manner: he too frequently tranſcribes the words of other authors, and, from a want of recourſe to original documents, decides without warrantable authority. His reputation aroſe from the vigorous attack he made upon eccleſiaſtical power; and he is ſuppoſed to have been the firſt that freed the Neapolitans from the ſlaviſh terrors, with which the menaces of Rome had for ſo many ages impreſſed their minds. The ſucceſs of his book rouſed the Pope's partiſans, who ſoon contrived to render him an object of execration, and an exile. He dragged on a life of poverty and miſery for many years, and was at laſt ſhamefully decoyed into Savoy, and thrown into priſon by the King of Sardinia, who having then in view a treaty with the court of Rome, hoped to carry his point by this unjuſt treatment of a man, over whom he could not poſſibly pretend any dominion. Giannone died in 1748, after thirteen years captivity.

SECTION XIX.

THE origin and etymology of Lucera are equally matter of conjecture; its antiquity and former importance are proved by the teſtimony of many hiſtorians. It was a city of the Daunians, and an ally of the Romans, who eſteemed it a place of the utmoſt conſequence to their views of aggrandiſement. In the year of Rome 433, the conſuls T. Veturius Calvinus and Spurius Poſthumius, were marching from Campania to its relief, when they were circumvented and made priſoners by the Samnites in the defile of Caudium. The epithet *noble* *, beſtowed upon it by Horace, can allude only to its antiquity, for Strabo ſays it was much decayed in the Auguſtan age; the only remnant of Roman building is a tower in the centre of the caſtle. The coins of Luceria are in moſt cabinets †.

In 663, Lucera was ſacked by Conſtans the Second, and lay in ruins till Frederick the Second conceived an affection

* Telanæ prope nobilem
Tonſæ Luceriam.

† Nummi Lucerinorum.

ÆR. 1. Cap. Herculis imb. pelle leoninâ tectum=Clava, pharetra et arcus LOVCERI.
2. Cap. Pallad. gal.=Rota octo radiorum LOVCERI.
3. Cap. imb. laur. 2 glob.=Cap. bov. LOVCERI.
4. Cap. barb. laur. 3 glob.=Delphin LOVCERI.
5. Cap. mul. velat. laur. 2 glob.=Concha LOVCERI.

for

for it, and erected on one of its hills a ſpacious Gothic fortreſs ſtill exiſting. He ſoon after tranſported hither the Saracens of Sicily to remove them from the dangerous neighbourhood of Africa, and break their pernicious connexions with that continent. Under the protection of the Swabian kings, their numbers increaſed to ſixty thouſand; their inſolence roſe in proportion to their numbers, and from Lucera, as from a den, they ruſhed forth into the plains, where they exerciſed all ſorts of violence upon the inhabitants; the hiſtories of thoſe times abound with traits of their cruelty, perhaps a little exaggerated on account of the inviolable attachment which theſe Muſſulmen profeſſed and maintained towards the houſe of Swabia, a moſt odious and unpardonable crime in the eyes of the ſucceeding princes and their partiſans. Spinelli * tells us of one Phocax, a Saracen captain, who being in love with the wife of Simon Rocca of Trani, broke into his houſe by night, turned him out of

* Matthew Spinelli, a gentleman of Giovenazzo, wrote a journal of events that happened, in his time, under the three laſt Swabian and the firſt Angevine princes. We have his work both in Latin and Italian: Muratori and others try to perſuade us, that the latter is the original; but the language is ſo widely different from the modern Puglian dialect, and from any idiom we can ſuppoſe in uſe there five hundred years ago, that it is quite abſurd to think Spinelli wrote it as the language now ſtands: either the Latin is the original, or the preſent Italian is a tranſlation of the ancient Puglian copy. There are ſome anachroniſms and interpolations in this very curious diary; but the former ariſe from the old Puglian method of beginning the year in September, and the blame of the latter may be laid upon the copiſts, who had a political intereſt in falſifying the text. This is a ſhort and valuable work, relating with ſimplicity the tranſactions of the times, and throwing great light upon the characters of many principal perſonages of that buſy period.

his bed, and took poſſeſſion of his place: a complaint of this outrage was lodged before the Emperor; but he treated it lightly, and anſwered, that where there was compulſion, there could be no diſhonour. If the Infidels were licentious, we learn from the ſame chronicles, that the Chriſtians were not behind hand in revenge.

After the battle of Benevento, where the Saracens ſignalized their fidelity, and acquitted themſelves with honour of the laſt duty to their benefactor Manfred, they were obliged to ſubmit to the conqueror. In 1300, Charles the Second, aware of the danger of ſuffering them to remain any longer in the heart of his kingdom, and zealous to re-eſtabliſh the worſhip of Chriſt in a place, where it had been for ſo many years treated with indignity, iſſued an edict, by which all Mahometans, reſident in his dominions, were to embrace the Chriſtian religion, or be liable to be killed with impunity wherever they ſhould be found. Moſt of them fled beyond ſea, and Charles reſtored Lucera to the Chriſtians, built a magnificent cathedral, cauſed a biſhop and chapter, with ample revenues, to be appointed, and endeavoured to obliterate even the memory of all paſt abominations by aboliſhing the ancient name, in lieu of which he ſubſtituted that of Santa Maria; but it happened here, as at Manfredonia, which his father had new named, the old denomination prevailed.

In 1590, Mark Sciarra, a captain of banditti, ſurprized and plundered this city. The biſhop, who had taken re-

fuge in the ſteeple of his cathedral, was ſhot at the window, as he was peeping out to watch the motions of the robbers.

The tribunal of the Preſident of Capitanata and Moliſe, and an annual fair in November, are at preſent the chief ſupport of the town.

From the walls, Ferentino or Caſtelfiorentino was pointed out to us about ſix miles to the north. It is now a ruinous hamlet, but was once an epiſcopal city, and remarkable for being the place where the Emperor Frederick the Second breathed his laſt. To form a juſt character of this monarch, it is neceſſary to ſteer a middle courſe between the invectives of eccleſiaſtical writers, and the eulogies of the Ghibellines. It is from a comparative review of the great events of his reign that I ſhall ſketch the outlines of his portrait. He was a warrior of conſummate prudence and undoubted courage, by the help of which he weathered the ſtorms of half a century. In proſperity he was not elated; adverſity did not depreſs his ſpirit; born at an unhappy period, when the popes were ſtraining every ſinew to attain temporal as well as ſpiritual deſpotiſm, when the empire was exerting its laſt efforts to check the growing power of Rome, and preſerve a footing in Italy, Frederick was early involved in diſputes with the Guelph faction, which continued with very little intermiſſion during his whole life. In the courſe of theſe diſturbances, all ſentiments of reſpect for the triple crown, which he always found on the head of his moſt inveterate enemy, vaniſhed from his breaſt, and, when once they diſ-

appeared,

appeared, it was natural he ſhould confound the principles of the religion with thoſe of its chief; from hating the pontiff he came to deſpiſe the faith; ſentiments enforced by Frederick's ſtyle of life and ſtudy: he was the moſt learned ſovereign of the age, a poet, and author of ſome treatiſes on veterinarian ſubjects, the moſt faſhionable a prince could employ his talents upon; he founded academies, protected men of letters, inſtituted good laws, and proved himſelf a ſtrict obſerver of juſtice; but cruel and vindictive in the infliction of its penalties. He was a dupe to judiciary aſtrology, abandoned to ſenſual pleaſures, and, notwithſtanding all Giannone ſays in his defence, a latitudinarian in his religious opinions. He is ſaid to have obſerved with a ſneer, as he marched through the Holy Land, that if the God of the Hebrews had ever ſeen the Terra di Lavoro, he would not have ſet ſuch a value upon his land of promiſe.

From Lucera, we continued our journey ſouthward to La Cerignuola, through an immenſe flat watered by the Carapelle and the Cervaro; the firſt of theſe torrents is the Daunus, from which the whole country derived its ancient name. On the north-eaſt our horizon was bounded by the ſea, on the north by Monte St. Angelo; the Apennine runs along the weſtern ſide as far as the eye can diſcover; between it and the ſea, the inſulated ridge of Canoſa croſſes the plain, and cloſes the view to the ſouth. As the weather was dry, we found the road tolerably good; but in winter it muſt be impaſſable. From the warmth I felt, I conceived an idea

of the exceſſive power of the ſummer ſun in theſe low lands, where neither ſhade nor ſhelter is to be found for many miles; there is then no breathing in them through intenſeneſs of heat and want of ventilation. Horace, who was well acquainted with all the qualities of his native country, has more than once made mention of parched-up Puglia *, and in modern language, the following adage is not leſs expreſſive of the idea the Puglieſe themſelves have of its inſufferable ſummer weather:

Le pene ſi ſoffriſcon dell' inferno
L'eſtate in Puglia, all' Aquila l'inverno †.

We met crowds of people returning from the feaſt or wake of l'Incoronata: this is an image of the Madonna found in a tree, and held in great veneration. They were all gay and frolickſome, eſpecially the women, who ſeemed mightily pleaſed with the day's diverſion. At the place where this feſtival is kept, was formerly a hunting ſeat of Manfred. In 1265, being deſirous of ſtrengthening his doubtful title by popularity, he ſummoned a general court of his barons at Foggia, and made a grand hunting match in the foreſt of Incoronata, to which above one thouſand

* Æſtuoſæ grata Calabriæ armenta——
Pauper aquæ Daunus——
Peruſta ſolibus uxor Appuli——
Siticuloſæ Apuliæ——

† "The pains of hell are felt in Puglia during the ſummer, and at Aquila "during the winter."

five

five hundred perſons of conſideration were invited. After the chace, the ſpoil was divided among the company, and the hunting of that day remained long memorable in Puglia for the concourſe of nobility, the great quantity of game taken, and the magnificence of the King, who ſuffered none to depart without ſome token of his generoſity. Alphonſus the Firſt incloſed eighteen miles of this country with toils, and took ſo many ſtags, that, beſides what was carried away by the hunters, he ſent four hundred head to be ſalted for the uſe of the garriſons of Trani and Barletta. In later times, Puglia continued to be remarkable for abundance of deer. We have the authority of Pontanus, an eye-witneſs, for a very extraordinary proof of their numbers; he informs us, that his maſter King Ferdinand having marched out of Barletta before daybreak with a view of ſurprizing his enemies, was ſtopped by the appearance of a cloud of duſt riſing in the plain from a great crowd in motion; on the report of the advanced parties, he thought it prudent to return to his camp, leſt his retreat ſhould be cut off by that body of troops which ſeemed to move with prodigious rapidity. As ſoon as the ſun roſe, this formidable hoſt was diſcovered to be a herd of ſtags. The ſame author tells us, that ſome years before, Sforza, the moſt experienced general of the age, had been deceived in like manner, ſo as to draw up his forces to receive the charge. At preſent, game is not wanting, though kings now ſeldom drive it acroſs theſe plains; or by their reſidence on the royal chace,

contribute

contribute to its preſervation and increaſe. It appears rather paradoxical, that however eager, expert, and indefatigable, a prince may be in the chace, yet wild beaſts, and game of all ſorts, ſhall flock round him and multiply near his palace; they ſeem faſcinated and hurried by an irreſiſtible inſtinct towards this royal butchery. But the concourſe is eaſily accounted for, when we conſider the impunity with which they ravage the hopes of the huſbandman, and the undiſturbed ſecurity they enjoy under the protection of the foreſt laws during their ſeaſons of pairing, producing, and nurſing their progeny.

The Puglian ſportſmen run down hares with greyhounds, and purſue the wild boar with one large lurcher, and two or three maſtiffs; the hunters ride with a lance and a pair of piſtols.

La Cerignola is a town of twelve thouſand inhabitants, ſituated on a riſing ground without tree or buſh near it. About forty years ago an earthquake almoſt deſtroyed it, and it is not yet thoroughly rebuilt; the ſtreets are crooked and dirty, the houſes all low, as the owners dare not raiſe them high for fear of another ſhock. The eighty-firſt Columna Milliaria, inſcribed with the name of Trajan, was the only fragment of antiquity I found here. The commodities of the place are ſheep, horſes, and corn; the bread is black and gritty, but well taſted. In 1363, James Arcucci, great Chamberlain of Naples, was lord of this manor: it afterwards belonged to the Palagoni, from whom Ladiſ-

laus took it to give to the Caraccioli; Pignatelli, Count of Egmont †, reſident in France, is the actual poſſeſſor, and farms it out at fifteen thouſand ducats a-year (£. 2,810). In 1503, the great captain defeated the French near this town, in an attack they made upon his camp. Their general, Lewis of Armagnac, Duke of Nemours, was killed in the engagement.

SECTION XX.

April 22d. WE ſet out early to examine the fields of Cannæ, famous for the victory obtained over the Romans by Hannibal in the 536th year of Rome. The reſult of our obſervations ſhall be given in as few words as the deſire of being intelligible will admit of.

From Cerignola to the bridge of Canoſa are reckoned ſix miles of open country, arable and paſture. The Ofanto (anciently the Auſidus) flows under this bridge; its courſe is ſerpentine, and various in its direction, ſometimes running due eaſt, at others, rather to the ſouth, but in general inclining to the north-eaſt. There was but little water in it, and that whitiſh and muddy; but from the wideneſs of its

† The Pignatellis give three pots or pignatte for their arms, and pretend they bear this coat in memory of one of their anceſtors having entered Conſtantinople ſword in hand, penetrated into the market-place, and brought off the three pots as a trophy. They are rich and puiſſant Barons, Princes of Belmonte, Strongoli, and Dukes of Monteleone, &c. Of this family was Pope Innocent the Twelfth, elected in 1691.

bed,

bed, the ſand banks, and the buttreſſes erected to break the force of the ſtream, it is plain that it ſtill anſwers Horace's epithets of fierce, roaring, and violent *. It flows from two ſources that embrace the conical Mount Voltore, and join at the foot, being the only river †, as Polybius obſerves, that riſing on the weſtern ſide of the Apennines, empties itſelf into the Adriatic. This double origin is expreſſed by the appellation Tauriformis ‡, having two branches or horns at the head ‖.

Except a few ſcattered poplars, I ſaw no wood near its banks; the Roman road from Benevento, through Aſcoli, appears here raiſed above the level of the fields, and paſſes ſouth in a line to Canoſa. We breakfaſted at an inn near the bridge, and regretted our not having followed Horace's example, in bringing a ſupply of bread from ſome other place §, for what we got here was as brown as mahogany,

* Aufidus acer—longè ſonantem—violens obſtrepit. HOR.

† This expreſſion of Polybius is not eaſy to be underſtood; for there are certainly many high mountains farther weſt than the head of the Ofanto; it is probable, he meant that it roſe weſt of the middle ridge: the Sele (Silarus) riſes very near it, and diſcharges itſelf into the Tirrhene ſea.

‡ Sic Tauriformis volvitur Aufidus. HOR.

‖ Perhaps Horace intended no more by this title, than an alluſion to the bulls, genii with horns, minotaurs, or animals with human face and horns, by which it was uſual to repreſent rivers on coins; for, in reality, the Ofanto may be ſaid to flow from fifty ſprings as well as two, if we take in all the brooks that fall into it.

§ Panis longè pulcherrimus, ultra
Callidus ut ſoleat humeris portare viator,
Nam Canuſi lapidoſus.——

and ſo gritty that it ſet our teeth on edge to craunch it. The friable incompact contexture of the ſtone with which the millers grind their corn, rather than the ſand of the area where it is trodden out, can alone have perpetuated this defect in the Canuſian bread for nineteen centuries. I believe their millſtones are of the ſoft concreted rock, which conſtitutes the greateſt part of the coaſt. The corn is ſeparated from the ear by the trampling of a great number of mares tied in a ſtring by their tails, and whipped round and round. This operation is performed, in the Terra di Otranto, by a pair of oxen, who drag between them a very heavy rough ſtone, that breaks the ſheaves, and ſhakes out the grain.

We were too much occupied with the evolutions of Hannibal, to think of any deviation from the direct route to Cannæ, ſo reſerving Canoſa, and its antiquities, for another opportunity, ſtruck into the Barletta road at the corner of the inn, down the ſouth ſide of the Ofanto. A ridge of low hills, bare of wood, and laid out in graſs or corn land, confines the river on that ſide for four miles, at the end of which we came to a plain bounded by the Knolls, whereon ſtood the city of Cannæ *. For the next mile the Ofanto flows again cloſe under the hills, till, upon their ſinking with a gentle ſlope into the plains of Barletta, it winds on

* The Latins made the name of this city of the plural number, probably from its conſiſting of diſtinct parts, built on different eminences. The Greeks named it in the ſingular.

ſome miles farther through a dead flat, and empties itſelf into the gulph of Venice. On the north ſide, the riſing grounds are much more remote from the ſea, and all between is an uninterrupted level.

The traces of the town of Cannæ are very faint, conſiſting of fragments of altars, cornices, gates, walls, vaults, and underground granaries. It was deſtroyed the year before the battle; but being rebuilt, became an epiſcopal ſee in the infancy of Chriſtianity. It was again ruined in the ſixth century, but ſeems to have ſubſiſted in an humble ſtate many ages later; for we read of its contending with Barletta for the territory, which till then had been enjoyed in common by them; and in 1284, Charles the Firſt iſſued an edict for dividing the lands, to prevent all future litigation. The proſperity of the towns along the coaſt, which increaſed in wealth and population by embarkations for the Cruſadoes, and by traffic, proved the annihilation of the great inland cities; and Cannæ was probably abandoned entirely before the end of the thirteenth century.

At the foot of the hill is a large arch over a marble trough, which receives the waters of a copious ſpring. Here we found a camp of Abruzzeſe ſhepherds on the point of departing for the mountains. Rough in aſpect, dialect, and dreſs, but civil and hoſpitable, they offered us milk, cheeſe, and cold meat. The chief of them gave us ſome

 braſs

braſs coins of Zeno and Leo, found among the ruins; and ſeemed aſtoniſhed at our offering to pay him for ſuch baubles.

The hill above the well being rather higher than the reſt, ſerved as a reconnoitring poſt, where I inſpected my notes, and took drawings of the country, before I entered the field of battle. My eyes now ranged at large over the vaſt expanſe of unvariegated plains. All was ſilent; not a man, not an animal, appeared to enliven the ſcene. We ſtood on ruins, and over vaults; the banks of the river were deſert and wild. My thoughts naturally aſſumed the tint of the dreary proſpect, as I reflected on the fate of Rome and Carthage. Rome recovered from the blow ſhe received in theſe fields; but her liberty, fame, and trophies have long been levelled in the duſt. Carthage lies in ruins leſs diſcernible than theſe of the paltry walls of Cannæ: the very traces of them have almoſt vaniſhed from the face of the earth. The daring projects, marches, and exploits of her hero, even the victory obtained on this ſpot, would, like thouſands of other human atchievements, have been long ago buried in oblivion, had not his very enemies conſigned him to immortality; for the annals of Carthage exiſt no more: one common ruin has ſwallowed all.

The Roman Conſuls, Æmilius Paulus and Terentius Varro, being authorized by the ſenate to quit the defenſive plan, and ſtake the fortunes of the republic on the chance

of a battle, marched from Canuſium, and encamped a few miles eaſt, in two unequal diviſions, with the Aufidus between them. In this poſition they meant to wait for an opportunity of engaging to advantage; but Hannibal, whoſe critical ſituation in a deſolated country, without refuge or allies, could admit of no delay, found means to inflame the vanity of Varro by ſome trivial advantages in ſkirmiſhes between the light horſe. The Roman, elated with this ſucceſs, determined to bring matters to a ſpeedy concluſion; but, finding the ground on the ſouth ſide too confined for the operations of ſo large an army, croſſed the river, and reſting his right wing upon the Aufidus, drew out his forces in the plain. Hannibal, whoſe head quarters were at Cannæ, no ſooner perceived the enemy in motion, than he forded the water below, and marſhalled his troops in a line oppoſite to that of his adverſaries.

Polybius, who had examined the place, was a military man, and may have been acquainted with perſons that were preſent at the battle, was the guide I followed, as he is the original from whom ſubſequent hiſtorians took their accounts, and whoſe authority ſeems incontrovertible. He obſerves, that one of the armies faced the north, and the other the ſouth; by which poſitions the riſing ſun incommoded neither. The difficulty lies in deciding which way each of them was turned; as the expreſſions of Polybius are ſaid by ſome to admit of a double meaning, though I confeſs

confeſs I think nothing can be more explicit *. Chaupy taxes Livy with having miſinterpreted the paſſage of the Greek hiſtorian, who, according to his opinion, did not mean that the Romans ſtood with their faces to the noon-tide ſun, but only that they were drawn up to the ſouth of the enemy †. He affirms that the topography of the plain, and the courſe of the river, agree with this explanation, and that if the legions had faced the ſouth, the runaways could not, after the defeat, have reached Canuſium and Venuſia, without paſſing through the whole victorious army. Salapia, Arpi, Luceria, would have been their places of refuge.

However, as I cannot but think Livy well enough verſed in the Greek tongue, not to miſtake the meaning of an author he ſtudied and followed ſo cloſely, I am inclined to truſt to his explanation; eſpecially as, according to my ideas, the ſituation of the ground is in his favour; for, exactly in that part of the plain where we know with moral

* Καὶ τὲς μὲν ἐκ τῦ μείζονος χάρακος διαβιβάζων τὸν ποταμὸν ευθέως παρενέβαλλε. τὲς δ' ἐκ θατέρου συναπτων τοις ἐπὶ τὴν αὐλὴν ἐυθεῖαν ἐξέτατε, λαμβάνων πᾶσαν τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν την πρὸς μεσημβρίαν. Et hos quidem majorum caſtrorum ducens trans flumen, confeſtim in acie locabat. Illos verò minorum jungens cum prioribus rectâ lineâ appoſuit, faciens totam apparitionem verſus meridiem.—Βλεπέσης δὲ της μὲν τῶν Ρωμαίων τάξεως πρὸς μεσημβρίαν της δὲ τῶν Καρχηδονίων πρὸς τὰς ἄρκτυς· ἑκατέροις ἀβλαβῆ συνέβαινε γίνεσθαι τὴν κατὰ τὸν ἥλιον ἀνατολήν. Spectante meridiem Romanorum acie, Carthaginienſium verò ſeptentrionem, ambobus inoffenſis contigit eſſe ab ſolis ortu.

† Livy's words are, "Romanis in meridiem, Pœnis in ſeptentrionem "verſis." Lib. xxii. 46.

certainty

certainty that the main effort of the battle lay, the Aufidus, after running due eaſt for ſome time, makes a ſudden turn to the ſouth, and deſcribes a very large ſemicircle. The Romans, we are to ſuppoſe, forded it at the angle or elbow, and placed their right wing on the banks; while the legions extended themſelves due eaſt, till the whole line came to face the ſouth. The Carthaginians croſſed in two places within the ſemicircle, and were drawn out in a line, that formed the chord of which the river was the arch: the way to Canuſium was therefore open for the fugitives *.

The ſcene of action is marked out to poſterity, by the name of *Pezzo di Sangue*, "Field of Blood." The peaſants ſhewed us ſome ſpurs and heads of lances, lately turned up by the plough; and told us, horſe-loads of armour and weapons had been at different times carried off from thence.

Theſe plains have more than once, ſince the Punic war, afforded room for men to accompliſh their mutual deſtruction. Melo of Bari, after raiſing the ſtandard of revolt againſt the Greek Emperors, and defeating their generals in ſeveral engagements, was at laſt routed here, in 1019, by the Catapan Bolanus. Out of two hundred and fifty Norman adventurers, the flower of Melo's army, only ten

* All the maps are inaccurate in this province. D'Anville places Canuſium on the northern bank of the river, and the battle ſeveral miles ſouth of the Aufidus.

eſcaped

eſcaped the ſlaughter of the day. In 1201, the archbiſhop of Palermo and his rebellious aſſociates, who had taken advantage of the nonage of Frederick of Swabia, were cut to pieces at Cannæ by Walter de Brienne, ſent by the Pope to defend the young King's dominions.

We returned to Cerignuola acroſs the fields.

SECTION XXI.

NEXT day we hired a guide; or, to ſpeak more correctly, a very talkative buſtling fellow offered to conduct us acroſs the plains to the ruins of Salapia. Our ride was pleaſant for nine miles, over a fine down, with little corn or wood, but a great deal of lentiſcus. We were brought at laſt to the edge of a long lake, ſeparated from the ſea by a narrow neck of land, cut into ſeveral ponds for making ſalt, which is piled up in heaps, and carried off by boats to the ſhips that ride at anchor in the road. We ſaw ſome lying a mile or two off, not being able to come nearer to take in their cargoes. The ſwamps are overgrown with ſea purſlain and dwarf withy, with which the ſhepherds and fiſhermen make their huts and baſkets. Near the lake are the ruins we had come ſo far out of our way to ſee. They conſiſt of a ſquare fortification of earthen ramparts, with many diviſions and foſſes. I ſhould have taken it for a camp rather than a town, as

there

there is not a ſtone left near it, had not the tradition of the country, and the coins that have been found here, marked with the name of Salapia*, determined the ſituation of that place. In the Punic war, Salapia was a poſt of conſequence, which the Romans and Carthaginians were equally deſirous of poſſeſſing. After the death of Marcellus, Hannibal affixed that Conſul's ſeal to ſome forged letters, in hopes of gaining admittance into Salapia; but intelligence, accidentally conveyed to the garriſon, defeated his purpoſe.

Salpi was a city and biſhoprick till 1547, when the ſee was united to that of Trani. I believe it ſtood at La Trinità, ſome miles from the old town.

Our conductor, who during the whole journey had entertained us with wonderful ſtories of apparitions and miracles, at laſt diſcloſed the ſecret cauſe of his eagerneſs to accompany us thus far. This was no leſs than the hopes of diſcovering, among the many cavities in theſe ancient mounds, the entrance of an enchanted grotto, which contains a column of maſſive ſilver, and other precious things. It was, he aſſured us, the belief of the whole country, that whoever was pure enough from ſin, and ſo favoured

* Nummi Salapinorum.
ÆR. 1. Cap. Apollinis laur. ΣΑΛΑΠΙΝΩΝ.=Equus. tridens. ΠΥΛΑ.
2. Cap. Jovis ΣΑΛΑΠΙΝΩΝ=Aper ΠΛΩΤΙΟΥ.
3. Cap. Jov. ΣΑΛΑΠΙΝΩΝ=Aper. tridens ΠΥΛΑΟΥ.
4. Cap. Apoll.=Equus. ſtella ΣΑΛΠΙΝΩΝ.
5. Equus A. ΔΑΙΟΥ=Piſcis ΟΝΙΠΛ.
6. Equus ΣΑΛΠΙΝΩΝ=Piſcis ΕΔΑΜΑΙΡΕΔΑΕΕΝ.
7. Cap. imb. diad.=Equus. ſtella. ΖΑΛΠΙΝΩΝ.

by Heaven, as to penetrate into this myſterious cavern, would undoubtedly become poſſeſſed of treaſure ſufficient to buy up all the flocks of Puglia Piana. Our honeſt guide was ſure of obtaining the preference, becauſe he had been a few days before to pay his devoirs to the Madonna dell' Incoronata, and had taken every ſtep enjoined by the church for purifying his ſoul from all ſtain; however, he could not avoid being ſtaggered, when, upon examining the whole place, not one of us could find a hollow above a foot deep; and, with a look expreſſive of diſtreſs and confuſion, he told us, he now recollected that many good men of his acquaintance (among the reſt a capuchin friar of moſt exemplary life) had proved unſucceſsful in their attempts to come at this bewitched cave. As he ſeemed to think our preſence adverſe to the influence of his ſtars, we took our leave, gave him for his trouble the only money he was likely to earn that day, and purſued our journey by the ſea-ſhore. As long as our eyes were capable of diſcerning objects of that ſize, we could perceive him running up and down very buſily, hunting after his imaginary grotto.

We rode through a rich arable country to the mouth of the Ofanto, and croſſed the bridge into the Terra di Bari. There is a tide very perceptible about half a mile up the river. Three miles farther, we arrived at Barletta, through a narrow ſlip of an incloſed vine country, taken off the extenſive corn lands of Cannæ; the ſoil ſhallow, planted with almond trees.

Barletta has, from without, a ruinous aſpect; its walls tumbling down, and its ditches filled with rubbiſh. But the inſide of the city is magnificently built, though thinly peopled. It conveys the idea of a capital of ſome mighty ſtate reduced to the condition of a conquered province, or depopulated by a raging peſtilence. Frequent changes of maſters, bad adminiſtration, and decay of commerce, blaſted the proſperity of Barletta. Its ſtreets are wide and well paved; the houſes large and lofty, built with hewn ſtone, which, from age, has acquired a poliſh little inferior to that of marble. Some of theſe venerable manſions have the ſtones cut after the Tuſcan manner, in angular ſhapes. The ſtyle of building fixes their date at the firſt emergence of the arts out of the chaos of barbariſm, many of the houſes ſtill retaining pointed arches, ſhort twiſted columns, and other remnants of Saracenic taſte; while others are decorated with pillars, entablatures, and members characteriſtic of the ancient Grecian architecture. This city owes its embelliſhments to the policy of the Aragonian kings, who reſided here to ſecure the allegiance of the Pugliеſe.

In the cathedral, which is remarkable for its antique granite columns, Ferdinand the Firſt cauſed himſelf to be crowned, in hopes that the ſolemnity of the ceremony would inſpire the people with awe and reſpect for his perſon and family.

In the market-place ſtands a coloſſal bronze ſtatue, ſeventeen feet three inches high, repreſenting, as is ſup-

poſed,

poſed, the Emperor Heraclius, who began his reign in 610. He is ſtanding dreſt in a military habit, crowned with a diadem, a ſhort cloak hanging from his left ſhoulder acroſs his breaſt, and thrown over his left arm, which holds a globe; his right is raiſed above his head and graſps a ſmall croſs; the drawing is rude and incorrect, the attitude awkward *. According to ſome hiſtorians, Heraclius was particularly attached to the worſhip of St. Michael, for whoſe church, on Mount Garganus, he intended this maſſy repreſentation of himſelf, with many other valuable preſents; the ſhip that brought them from Conſtantinople was caſt away on the Puglian coaſt, and the ſtatue thrown on the ſands, where it lay many ages much damaged, and half buried. In 1491, it was dug up, and the hands and feet being reſtored, was placed in the great ſquare of Barletta. Pontanus thinks this coloſſus ſtood originally at the head of the mole, which Heraclius had carried out into the ſea for the convenience of navigators, and that the extended poſition of the hand denotes the protection he afforded to commerce. It long paſſed for the figure of Rachis, King of

* The ſmoothneſs of the chin makes me heſitate whether to aſcribe this ſtatue to Heraclius, who is the ſecond eaſtern Emperor that appears on the coins with a beard, or to ſome prior monarch. Till the time of his predeceſſor Phocas, ſovereigns ſhaved their chins, though their oriental ſubjects cheriſhed a length of beard. Cedrenus, indeed, aſſures us, that Heraclius conformed to that Imperial cuſtom; but on his medals, he is drawn with a ſquare beard, not unlike that of our Henry the Eighth. If this image be his, I ſuſpect it was not imported from Greece, but caſt in Italy, and conſequently dreſt after the Roman faſhion.

Lombardy, who, in 749, reſigned his crown, and took the habit of a Benedictine monk at Monte Caſino.

The citadel is ſpacious, and commands the port, which is at preſent a mere labyrinth, conſiſting of ſeveral irregular piers, where ſhips are moored; but without any ſhelter from the north wind, which ſweeps the whole baſon. The exports here are ſalt, corn, almonds, and liquorice, a root that grows ſpontaneouſly in the ſwamps. This air is accounted unwholeſome during the hot months.

Barletta is ſaid by Baccius, to have been at firſt no more than a tower, or drinking-houſe, on the road to Cannæ, which had for its ſign a barrel, barilletta; when the cities of Cannæ and Canoſa fell to decay, and the advantages of trade drew people to the coaſt, a numerous colony inſenſibly gathered round this tower, and in 484 Pope Gelaſius came down from Garganus to conſecrate a church for the ſettlers, which, in time, became the cathedral of the united ſees of Nazareth, Cannæ, and Monteverde. The Emperor Frederick added greatly to Barletta, and is by ſome called its founder. Other authors aſſign higher antiquity to the place, and ſuppoſe it to be the Barduli of the Itineraries. In 1291, the Barlettans rebelled againſt the houſe of Swabia, and ſet up the papal ſtandard, for which they were ſeverely puniſhed. Manfred, who had a great partiality for this part of his dominions, held a general parliament here, in which he put in practice every endearing art, likely to win the hearts, and fix the wavering affections of

his vaſſals. In the fifteenth century, Barletta was eſteemed one of the four ſtrongeſt fortreſſes in Italy *. It was mortgaged to the Venetians by Ferdinand the Second, and retaken from them by Gonſalvo de Cordova, who here collected his forces, and made his firſt ſtand againſt the French, in 1503.

SECTION XXI.

ON leaving Barletta, we ſaw before us, on a peninſula, the city of Trani, at the diſtance of ſix miles; the road to it is one of the rougheſt ever trodden by man or beaſt; it runs partly along the rocks impending over the beach, and partly in narrow lanes, through vineyards, between dry ſtone walls. In every incloſure is one, and often two hovels, built in a ſpiral form, with the ſtones picked off the land after digging. Theſe conical towers ſerve as watch-houſes for the perſons that attend before vintage, to prevent the depredations of quadruped and biped pilferers; when old and overgrown with climbing weeds and fig-trees, they become very romantic objects, and appear like ſo many ancient mauſolea. The ſhape of theſe piles of rude ſtone, covered with moſs and brambles, has deceived a writer of travels into a belief of their being Roman tombs; but I am ſurpriſed the prodigious multi-

* The other three were, Fabriano in the Marca, Prato in Tuſcany, and Crema in Lombardy.

tude

tude of them did not raiſe ſuſpicion; for if they were really depoſitories of the dead, the aſhes of the whole Roman people would ſcarcely have ſufficed to fill the columbaria of the ſingle province of Bari.

As ſoon as we arrived at Trani, we waited upon the Preſident, with a letter from the Secretary of State, and obtained from him, an order for all convents, in his diſtrict, to receive us civilly, and afford us lodging: we were provided with ſimilar recommendations for every province, and except letters for private families, there is no better method to be purſued in a tour through a country ſo ill provided with inns. Our evening was ſpent with the Archbiſhop, a worthy converſable prelate. He told us, he had taken great pains to introduce a taſte for ſtudy and literatûre into his dioceſe, but hitherto without ſucceſs, as the Tranians were a very merry race, gente molto allegra, but unfortunately born with an unconquerable antipathy to application. The collegians, though under his immediate inſpection, were above his hand, and often, when he thought the whole ſeminary buried in ſilence, wrapped up in ſtudious contemplation, or deep in theological lucubrations, he has been ſurpriſed, on entering the quadrangle, to find all ring again with gigs and tarantellas. We were well ſatisfied that he ſpoke without exaggeration, for never did I hear ſuch inceſſant chattering, and ſo ſtunning a din, as was kept up the whole day under our windows. It is a rule eſtabliſhed by the cuſtom of time immemorial, that no work ſhall be done in

Trani after dinner; the whole afternoon is to be ſpent in dozing, chatting, or ſauntering: we could not prevail upon the blackſmith to ſhoe one of our horſes in the evening.

The exportation of corn is conſiderable, but little other buſineſs is ſtirring; and I am afraid induſtry has taken a long farewell of moſt of the cities on this coaſt. The great number of towns along the Adriatic, jealous of each other, ſhackled with honourable but baneful privileges, and averſe to all friendly intercourſe and coalition of intereſts, is an almoſt inſurmountable bar to improvement; a province ſo bleſſed with articles of prime neceſſity might ſpeedily riſe to opulence, were trade properly underſtood and encouraged.

The bread of this place is white, light, and ſpungy, baked after the French manner, which is contrary to that of the Capitanata, where the bakers are ignorant of the very rudiments of their trade, and knead and bake their dough in ſuch an imperfect manner, that a ſtranger is almoſt choked in attempting to ſwallow it.

Vegetables are here ſo exquiſitely flavoured, that, for the firſt time of my life, I ate raw unſeaſoned lettuces with reliſh: pulſe of all kinds are large and pulpy; the market people ſell peaſe and beans by weight, and make uſe of pebbles in lieu of weights; a rude mode of dealing, which muſt expoſe the vender to great temptation of impoſing upon his chapmen, eſpecially as the ſtones, being of a ſoft

kind,

kind, muſt in time loſe part of their heavineſs by frequent rubbing.

The wine of the diſtrict ſouth of the Ofanto is ſweet, ſtrong, and tawny. It is mixed with moſto cotto; that is, a certain proportion of rich wine boiled down to a jelly. This is, no doubt, a trick of the vintner's art, handed down from the ancients, who treated their moſt precious wines in a ſimilar manner, as we learn from many paſſages in the claſſics. The grapes have a fine flavour, and might produce excellent liquor, but from inveterate and rooted ignorance the proprietor brews with them a muddy unpotable mixture, that will ſcarce keep a twelvemonth without turning to vinegar.

Trani is tolerably well built of ſtone, upon uneven ground. The harbour is incircled by the town, and has ſcarcely depth of water enough to ſet a boat afloat; the corn ſhips are obliged to come to an anchor a couple of miles off, and take in their lading from lighters. The city has been at great expence in building a quay, on a peninſula that advances ſo far as to embrace the haven; but this ſlip of land, inſtead of being occupied by the warehouſes and ſtores of merchants, is entirely taken up by two or three overgrown monaſteries. We need look for no other criterion of the ſtate of commerce at Trani.

The cathedral ſtands on the oppoſite ſide of the harbour, and was erected ſix centuries ago, in a very mean taſte; the ornaments prepoſterous, and, except a few pieces of foliage,

foliage, clumſily deſigned and executed; the pillars ſhort and thick, reſembling thoſe of our oldeſt Engliſh churches, which were built after the Saxon manner, and before the introduction of that lighter ſort of architecture, which we diſtinguiſh by the name of Gothic, and admire in the cathedrals of York, Lincoln, Weſtminſter, &c. The columns of the nave are ſolid blocks of granite, the diſlocated ſpoils of ſome ancient edifice. Philip, Prince of Morea, ſecond ſon of Charles the Firſt, repoſes in a marble coffin, without inſcription or ornament, except the croſs of Jeruſalem. Innocent the Third made Trani an archbiſhopric.

Weſt of the cathedral is the caſtle, conſiſting of ſome gloomy towers, built by Frederick of Swabia, who, in revenge for the depredations committed on his coaſts by the Venetians, hanged Peter Tiepolo, the Doge's ſon, on the Keep, in ſight of the Venetian gallies that were then cruizing off the port.

The monaſtery of St. Clare is a ſumptuous incloſure; its great gate is built in that ſtile of architecture which the Puglians learnt from the Saracens during their long reſidence in the country. Thoſe Africans, however ferocious they might be in war, were certainly well ſkilled in the arts of peace, and excelled in many branches of ſcience, which Chriſtians of thoſe dark ages deſpiſed, or deſpaired of attaining.

In the firſt diviſion of the conqueſts made by the Norman adventurers, and before any chieftain had acquired ſuch a

ſuperiority over the reſt, as to deſtroy the original equality of their ariſtocratical confederacy, Trani was aſſigned to one Peter, from whom the family of Capece deduces its pedigree, but, I think, on queſtionable grounds *.

Under the walls of Trani was fought, in 1502, a trial of ſkill between eleven Spaniards and as many Frenchmen, in

* Francis Capecelatro, in his Origin of Nobility, inſiſts upon it, that Peter bore the name of Capece by inheritance, and was of the blood of the Gothic princes. More moderate genealogiſts believe the Capeci to be Normans by extraction, and to have ſettled at Sorrento, where they recommended themſelves to notice by their ſkill as naval officers; they frequently are called Cacapece in old chronicles, a name that an ingenious friend of mine thinks the original one, and alluſive of their profeſſion. They were raiſed early to an exalted rank in the ſtate, and honoured with the confidence of many ſovereigns. Marino Capece ſuperintended the building of Manfredonia. Conrad ſignaliſed himſelf in the Swabian cauſe, which his family had always ſupported, and probably owed its fortunes to: after the battle of Benevento, he cut his way through the thickeſt ſquadrons of the enemy, headed a party in Sicily in favour of Conradine, and maintained to the laſt an unſhaken fidelity to his old maſters. This conduct rendered the Capeci extremely odious to the conqueror, who deprived many individuals of their lives, and many of their eſtates; he obliged the ſurvivors to tack ignominious additions to their ſurname, ſuch as Latro, Galeota, Piſcicelli, Zurolo, Minutolo, Tomacelli, &c. which, in time, became honourable diſtinctions of the ſeveral branches of this numerous ſept. In Naples, a family that ſpreads itſelf out into many branches, acquires thereby an increaſe of dignity and influence: in ſome countries, ſuch a diviſion contributes more to the deſtruction than the proſperity of a houſe. That of Capece was at one period divided into ſixteen branches, but half of them are now extinct. It gave to the chair of St. Peter, one pope, viz. Boniface the Ninth, elected in 1389, extolled for his chaſtity, and blamed for his avarice and nepotiſm. Of this race was James Galeota, who, in 1488, commanded the French army, and defeated the Dukes of Britanny and Orleans at the battle of St. Aubin du Cormier. One of its moſt reſpectable preſent members, is the learned and amiable archbiſhop of Taranto.

ſupport

ſupport of the honour of their reſpective nations; the Venetians ſat as umpires. The combatants fought till there remained only ſix Spaniſh and four French knights; the latter then alighted, and defended themſelves behind their horſes as behind a rampart, till night put an end to the conteſt.

SECTION XXIII.

BISCEGLIA is four miles diſtant from Trani. The road is very rugged, and being worn with wheels, and the courſe of rain water, is cracked into figures not unlike an ancient pavement; and ſuch it has been deemed by ſome writers, but I could not diſcover any traces of a Roman way: the great Brunduſian road never came near the coaſt till it reached Bari.

The face of this country is delightful, and much more diverſified than the neighbourhood of the Ofanto. We rode under the ſhade of fruit trees, of a ſize and vigour of growth unknown in more northern latitudes. The olives of this province are not inferior in bulk to the largeſt Seville ones.

Biſceglia is a pretty town, ſituated in the midſt of orchards and villas. Its walls are of ſtone, and very lofty. I was unſucceſsful in my reſearches after the antique buildings mentioned in an account of this place. I met with no

remains of baths or cellars, but hundreds of ſubterraneous reſervoirs and ciſterns, of all ſizes and ſhapes, cut into ſteps in the ſolid rock, and arched over with ſtones and ſtucco, in order to collect and preſerve the rain-water, which is the only ſort they have to drink, in a diſtrict ſo totally deſtitute of ſprings.

This little city was granted by Charles the Firſt to the Bruneforts; but its inhabitants ſeem to have had a great diſlike to baronial government, by the tender they made to the Emperor Charles the Fifth, of fourteen thouſand golden ducats, a large ſum in thoſe days, provided he would render them for ever a royal corporation, ſubject only to the juriſdiction of the King's officers. In the wars between Durazzo and Anjou, the Biſceglians, being diſſatisfied with the behaviour of King Charles's garriſon, ſent to offer the keys of their town to his rival. The Angevines marched from Bari; but, having met with an unexpected reſiſtance at Biſceglia, were obliged to make their entry by main force. This appearance of double dealing in the citizens exaſperated the ſoldiers, and gave them a plea for plundering it as a place taken by aſſault. They would have laid it waſte, had not Lewis of Anjou, their chief, curbed their fury by extraordinary activity and dint of authority. Theſe generous exertions coſt him his life, for they threw him into a fever, of which he died. He was a younger ſon of John, King of France, and, during the minority of Charles the Sixth, Regent of that kingdom; a truſt which he did

not diſcharge to the ſatisfaction of the nation: his proceedings were arbitrary, and the extortions he committed, or ſuffered to paſs unpuniſhed, brought great odium upon him. It was the deſire of accumulating funds for his Neapolitan expedition, and not innate avarice, that put him upon rapacious meaſures; for he poſſeſſed a liberal and munificent ſpirit, which attached to his cauſe the partizans he had gained by his eloquence and winning behaviour. His wit was lively, and his head clear for buſineſs; but he was not endowed with military talents, and by no means a match for his antagoniſt Charles the Third, one of the beſt generals of the age. Joan the Firſt adopted Lewis, in oppoſition to Durazzo; but he came too late to ſave her.

The clergy offer to the devotion of the Biſceglians the liquefied blood of St. Pantaleon, and two other martyrs; a miracle performed annually at Naples, and in ſeveral other places of the kingdom. This ſpecies of prodigy was known to the Greeks of the Lower Empire, who introduced many opinions and religious practices into this part of their dominions. But miraculous liquefactions are of older ſtanding in Puglia *.

* ——Dein Gnatia——
——dedit riſuſque jocoſque,
Dum flammis ſine thura liqueſcere limine ſacro
Perſuadere cupit.—— HOR. Sat. 5. Lib. 1.

"Next, Gnatia afforded ſubject for laughter, while ſhe endeavoured to "perſuade us, that incenſe would melt on the threſhold of her temple, without the help of fire."

Three

Three miles more of the ſame wretched road, through olive woods and patches of vineyards, brought us to Molfetta. I did not enter the walls, but paſſed on through a well-built ſuburb. The outward appearance of the town is handſome; but the peep I had through the gate, ſhewed me nothing but lofty old-faſhioned houſes, and narrow dirty ſtreets. It is ſaid to contain twelve thouſand inhabitants, and to carry on ſome trade in almonds and oil. The lordſhip belongs to the Spinolas.

In or near all theſe towns are convents of a ſtupendous bulk. At Giovenazzo is a moſt enormous fabric, belonging to the Dominicans; an order of friars that enjoys very large poſſeſſions in this realm, and in almoſt every city has a monaſtery, generally the beſt in the place. St. Thomas of Aquino, one of the great luminaries of the Latin Church, and a capital Saint of the Dominican Order, was a native of this kingdom; conſequently a very natural impulſe of national pride and affection led his countrymen to revere his memory, careſs his brethren, and help them to increaſe in wealth and importance.

Giovenazzo is an ugly deſolate city, on a rock hanging over the ſea, containing about two thouſand ſouls. It is now veſted in the Crown, after having been a barony of the Giudici.

The only ſingular anecdote I meet with in hiſtory concerning Giovenazzo, is the devaſtation of its territory in 1437 by the Pope's general, Vitelleſchi, Patriarch of Alexandria,

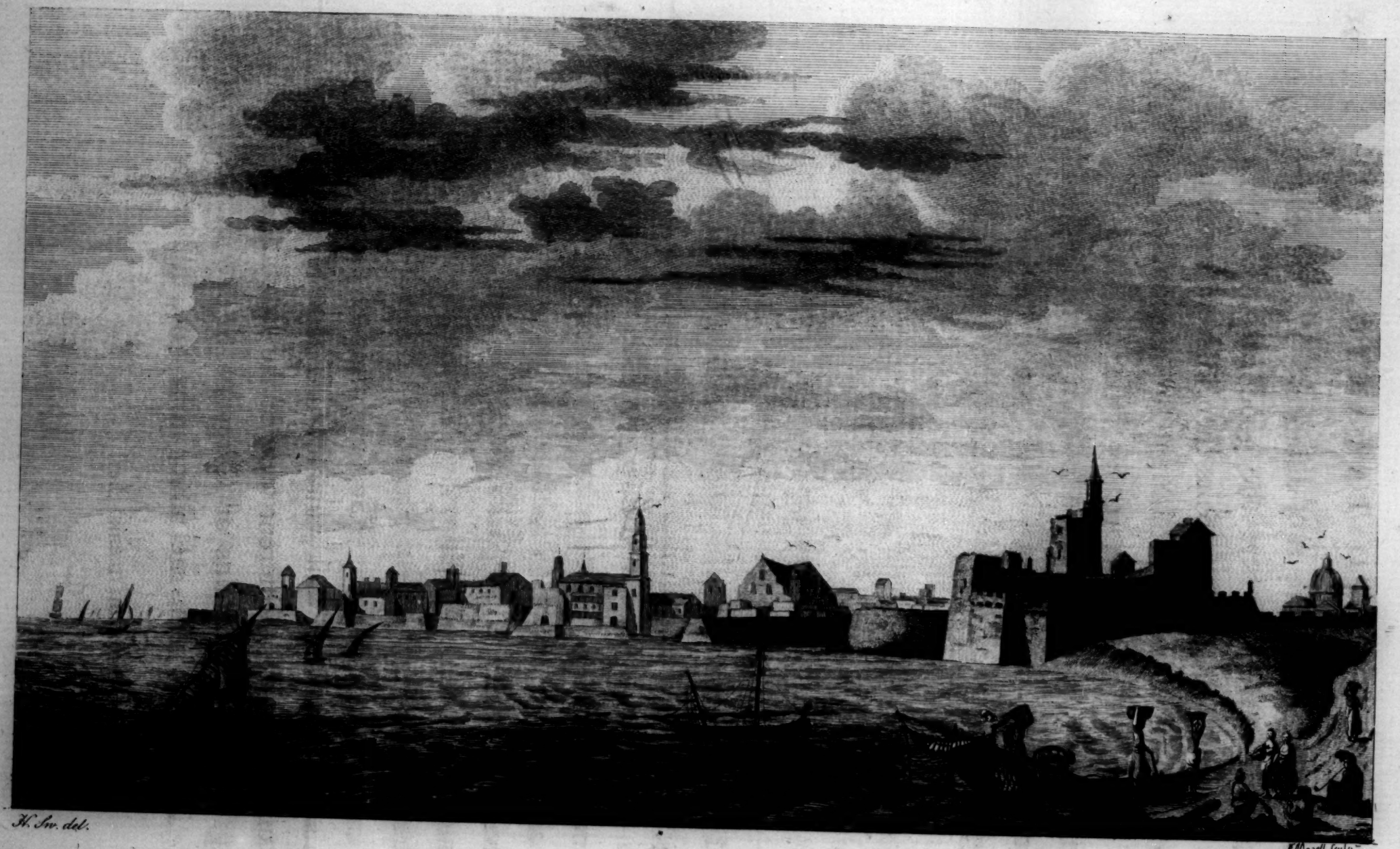
andria, who invaded Puglia in ſupport of the Angevine cauſe. His hatred to the Aragoneſe was moſt virulent; and he ſeemed afraid leſt his troops ſhould be deterred from doing miſchief, by motives of compaſſion or Chriſtian charity. To quiet their ſcruples, and rouſe their deſtructive zeal, he publiſhed an indulgence of an hundred days for every olive tree any of his ſoldiers ſhould cut down. Strange perverſion of the mild religion of Chriſt, who forbade his diſciples to avenge his wrongs, and prayed for his enemies, while tormented by their malice! Our aſtoniſhment ought to be great, not that ſo many nations have ſeceded from the communion of the Pope, but rather that ſo many have remained faithful to him, amidſt ſuch horrid abuſes committed by his miniſters, in direct contradiction to the doctrine they were appointed to teach *.

Our afternoon's ride of twelve miles was cold and damp, the wind blowing freſh from the ſea, and the way lying upon a bare rugged rock, high above the water, expoſed to

* To efface the bad impreſſions of this contradictory conduct, the Romans are fond of citing a tale from Boccaccio.—A Jew goes from Paris to Rome, in order to acquire a juſt idea of the Chriſtian religion, as at the fountain head. There he beholds ſimony, intrigue, and abominations of all ſorts; and, after gratifying his curioſity in every particular, returns to France, where he gives a detail of his obſervations to a friend, by whom he had been long ſolicited to abjure Judaiſm. From ſuch a recital, the Chriſtian expected nothing but an obſtinate perſeverance in the old worſhip; and was ſtruck with amazement, when the Jew acquainted him with his reſolution of requeſting baptiſm upon the following grounds of conviction: That he had ſeen at Rome every body, from the Pope down to the beggar, uſing all their endeavours to ſubvert the Chriſtian faith, which nevertheleſs daily took deeper and firmer root, and muſt therefore be of divine inſtitution.

every blaſt. The country flat, and divided by ſtone walls. The ſoil is naturally poor, and would ſcarcely afford nouriſhment for a blade of graſs, had not the huſbandmen found means to improve and fertilize it by copious manurings of rotted ſea-weed, of which there is an ample proviſion in every cove. The active diſpoſition of the cultivators has converted their ſtubborn unfavourable land into the beſt tilled diſtrict in the province, and rendered its appearance luxuriantly rich and cheerful. It yields in abundance cotton, wine, oil, almonds, cummin, and fruits of numberleſs kinds and delicious flavour. The moſt eſteemed are the grape, fig, pear, and pomegranate: want of ſkill in the gardeners prevents the other ſorts from attaining that perfection they might be brought to. It has very little ſilk, and boaſts of no mines; but there are ſalt-ponds, of great profit to the crown, the ſole proprietor of all ſalt, foſſile or factitious. A valuable breed of horſes may be reckoned among its ſtaple commodities, but how inferior in numbers and renown to the ſtuds of ancient Japygia! I do not believe the whole kingdom now breeds as many horſes as were to be found in this ſingle province at the time it offered to ſupply Rome with an auxiliary force of fifty thouſand foot and ſixteen thouſand horſe.—What ſwarms of men, what droves of animals, then ſubſiſted in a tract of land, where at this day a mere handful of human creatures, and a few beaſts, find it difficult to ſubſiſt, and almoſt every year are indebted to ſupplies of corn from other countries!

Bari



H. Sw. del.

F. Mazell. Sculp.

NORTH View of the CITY of BARI.

~ Cathedral. ~~ St. Nicholas. ~~ Castle. ~~~ Dominicans.

Bari makes a great figure at a diſtance. We lodged at the Dominican convent, where the good hoſpitable Prior gave us his own cell, as the repairs then in hand rendered the apartment for ſtrangers abſolutely uninhabitable. A plentiful fiſh ſupper was provided for us by our kind hoſt, anxious to ſupport the reputation of Bari in that article. The abundance and delicacy of the fiſh vouch for Horace's knowledge of the peculiar excellencies of his own country *.

SECTION XXIV.

BARI is defended by double walls and an old caſtle; it occupies a rocky peninſula of a triangular form, about a mile in circumference. The houſes, which are in general mean, and without any pretenſions to ornamental architecture, are built upon a ſoil raiſed by the ruins of former edifices near thirty feet above the level of the ſea. Pieces of old pavement have been frequently diſcovered by digging ſeveral feet below the preſent ſtreets, which are uneven, narrow, crooked, and dirty. The new rampart above the harbour, is the only clean walk, and few are more pleaſant; at every turn you catch a different view of the ſea and coaſt, ſtretching from the mountains of Garganus to the hills of Oſtuni. The towns that riſe along this line, in various

* ——Piſcoſi mænia Barî.

degrees of ſhade, have a beautiful effect; and nothing can be more pictureſque than the fleets of fiſhing-boats ſteering for their reſpective harbours on the approach of night. On ſhore, the full bloom of Spring and lively foliage, contraſted with innumerable white cottages, form an enchanting rural ſcene.

There is ſome reaſon to ſuppoſe that ancient Barium extended farther into the country than the preſent city. Iſabella of Aragon, Dutcheſs dowager of Milan, began to cut a canal through the Iſthmus, about half a mile from the gates: bridges were to correſpond with the principal ſtreets, and the intermediate ſpace to be built upon. But this grand work, which would have redounded to her immortal honour, and the commercial proſperity of Bari, was deſtroyed by a ſudden inundation in a rainy ſeaſon, and never afterwards attempted to be reſumed.

The Cathedral has no external beauties; its inſide has lately been modernized, ſtuccoed, and painted, at the expence of the Archbiſhop, whoſe revenues do not exceed ſix thouſand ducats (£1,125). Under the choir is a chapel, ſupported upon ſhort columns, which give it a great reſemblance to the inſide of the Moſque at Cordova. It is incruſtated with party-coloured marbles, after a barbarous, fantaſtic deſign; and contains the bones of St. Sabinus, a patron of the town. The ſteeple is remarkable for being one of the higheſt in the kingdom *: a ſecond was begun

* It is about two hundred and ſixty-three feet high.

in 1617, but the apprehenſion of earthquakes ſtopped the work. The Barian writers pretend that the Norman kings, and ſome of their ſucceſſors, were crowned in this church with an iron diadem, which is kept among its treaſures; but Giannone and others treat the matter as a mere fable.

The royal Priory of St. Nicholas is an ugly Gothic edifice, erected by Archbiſhop Elias and King Roger. It is a celebrated ſanctuary, whither thouſands of pilgrims reſort to offer up their vows at the ſhrine of this Biſhop of Myra, the patron of orphans. His relics are ſaid to have been brought from Lycia in 1087 by ſome merchants; though the legend aſſures us they floated hither of their own accord. The lands and immunities with which it was endowed by the Norman princes, were very conſiderable; and one of its earlieſt privileges was an exemption from every juriſdiction except the papal. Charles the Firſt held the Saint in great veneration, and gave many ſolid proofs of his munificent devotion. But Charles the Second put the finiſhing hand to its eſtabliſhment; for, imagining that he owed his deliverance from impriſonment and death to the interceſſion of his ſpecial protector, St. Nicholas, he thought himſelf bound in gratitude to confer upon his church an increaſe of wealth and ſplendour. Accordingly he obtained from the Pope many honourable diſtinctions; augmented and ſettled its poſſeſſions; and inſtituted for himſelf, and the ſucceeding Kings of Naples, the office of Treaſurer, in which he was inſtalled with great ſolemnity. The church

is rich in marble columns, and ornaments aukwardly arranged. Behind the high altar is a very ſumptuous monument, erected by Anne Jagellon, wife of Stephen Battori, King of Poland, to the memory of her mother Bona, who was daughter and heireſs of John Galeas, Duke of Milan, by Iſabella of Aragon, widow of Sigiſmund the Firſt, King of Poland, and Dutcheſs of Bari by inveſtiture. In 1556, Queen Bona came with a ſplendid retinue to reſide at Bari, where ſhe died the following year. Her effigy is placed on its knees, and at the corners ſtand four ſtatues, repreſenting Poland, Lithuania, St. Staniſlaus, and St. Nicholas. Here alſo is a dirty, dark, ſubterraneous chapel, the original place of worſhip, over which King Roger raiſed the preſent fabric. Underneath its altar is a hole, through which devout and curious perſons thruſt their heads, to behold a bone or two ſwimming below in water: This liquid is drawn up by the prieſts in a ſilver bucket, and diſtributed, under the name of Manna, as an infallible cure for ſore eyes and diſordered ſtomachs. The chaplains were ſo buſied in their reſpective functions, that I could not obtain a ſight of this tomb, and muſt therefore content myſelf with the accounts I received from others. In this lower chapel Urban the Second aſſembled a general council of the Latin Church, which in 1097 decided in favour of the proceſſion of the Holy Ghoſt, and anathematized the Greek doctrine.

The

The caſtle is ſpacious and gloomy, inhabited by the Governor of the town, and a ſmall garriſon. Bona repaired it in 1554 for the reception of her court.

Religious Orders abound in Bari; and ſome of them have rich gaudy churches, with good paintings. The beſt are, a *Noli me tangere*, by Pietro da Cortona, at Santa Chiara; a Deſcent of the Croſs, by Carlo Cignani; and an Invention of it, by Paul Veroneſe, at the Capuchins: in the Cathedral, ſome large pieces by Luca Giordano and his ſcholars. The convent of the Jeſuits is converted into a college for young gentlemen *.

I ſaw no monuments of antiquity, except a milliary column, ſome inſcriptions, and a lion, of barbarous ſculpture, placed in the great ſquare, by the citizens of Bari, in 1002, as an offering of thanks to the republic of Venice, and its Doge, Peter Veſcolo, who came with a powerful fleet, and obliged the Saracens to raiſe the ſiege of this city.

Not far from the town, at a place ſaid to have been the general cemetery of ancient Barium, chance has brought to light great quantities of funeral pots, known among the virtuoſi by the name of Etruſcan vaſes; though for one that was moulded in Tuſcany, thouſands were baked in Campania, where the ſame ſort of ware was in conſtant uſe. They are greatly admired for the lightneſs of the clay,

* There are twelve convents for men, five for women, and three hoſpitals.

the

the elegance of their forms, and the profound learning ſuppoſed to lie hidden beneath the ambiguous characters and various groups, painted upon them in tawny yellow colours, on a dark ground. Theſe figures, and the ſhape of the urns, have been of great ſervice in improving the taſte, and multiplying the ideas, of our artiſts and porcelain manufacturers; but have contributed little to the advancement of hiſtorical or antiquarian knowledge, as ſcarce a ſingle group has been explained to the univerſal ſatisfaction of the learned. The great vogue theſe veſſels have had among the rich and curious collectors of the age, has ſet the ingenious Italians to work in counterfeiting them; and it is now no unuſual thing for a young dilettante to have a modern jar, with proper cracks and dirt, palmed upon him for a real antique. A Barian citizen, lately poſſeſſed of a noted aſſortment of theſe curioſities, told me that the moſt beautiful of them had been found in a large ſepulchre, about a yard below the ſurface of the earth; it contained a ſkeleton incloſed within a ſtone coffin, round which theſe vaſes were placed empty. Encouraged by this diſcovery, he dug in ſeveral other vineyards, and met with ſimilar vaults, but no urns of a fine grain or finiſhed workmanſhip.

At the ſouthern corner of the peninſula, is a kind of harbour, affording tolerable ſhelter to veſſels of ſmall burden. As Bari had formerly gallies of its own, I preſume it had a ſafer place for them to ride in. Its traffic was once very flouriſhing, being a mart for the Dalmatians and Levantines;

vantines; but the exorbitant duties, and ill-judged reſtrictions with which the commerce of this kingdom is hampered, have long ago driven merchants to other markets: however, the Barians, whoſe number amounts to ſixteen thouſand ſeven hundred, are an active pains-taking race, and carry on no deſpicable trade in oil and almonds; beſides theſe two capital objects, they ſend a conſiderable quantity of potaſh, ſoap, aniſeed, and even garlick, to the Venetian iſlands.

SECTION XXV.

I FIND little mention made in ancient authors of Barium, its foundation or hiſtory; coins ſtruck by its municipal magiſtrates ſtill exiſt †. The Lombards, Greeks, and Saracens, diſputed the poſſeſſion of this city in the ninth century. In the tenth, it roſe to diſtinction, on becoming the reſidence of the Greek Catapan or Viceroy, and of a metropolitan Biſhop. In 1089, the archiepiſcopal dignity was confirmed by the court of Rome. The book of conſtitutions, compiled for the juridical government of the pro-

† Nummi Barinorum.
ARG. 1. Cap. Mercurii=Gryps BA
ÆR. 1. Cap. Jovis laur.=Prora navis in quâ Cupido ſtans arcum tend. ſubtus delphin BAPINΩN.
2. Cap. Palladis gal.=Navis & Cupido coronam impon. trophæo.
3. Cap. Jovis=Prora BAPI. Æ.

vince,

vince, and ſtill in uſe, is a reſpectable voucher for the importance and policy of Bari, during the middle ages.

bout the year 1000, Bari became the ſcene of conſpiracies and revolutions: here Melo formed the project of the firſt confederacy againſt the Grecian Emperors, and though he did not live to ſee any great ſucceſs attend his ſchemes, yet it was owing to his ſagacity in pointing out the way, that the Normans were enabled to expell the Greeks from Italy; out of reſpect for his memory, thoſe conquerors raiſed his ſon Argirius to the ſupreme command over their league. Bari did not ſteadily adhere to Melo's plans, but ſoon returned to the obedience of the eaſtern Emperor, and was one of the laſt and firmeſt ſupports of his dominion.

In 1067, Robert Guiſcard inveſted it by ſea and land, and to prevent ſuccours being thrown in, incloſed it with a ſemicircle of ſhips joined together by chains and booms, each extremity having a bridge of communication with the camp, which completed the line of circumvallation. This blockade laſted four years, during which, both parties exhauſted every art of attack and defence practiſed in thoſe ages, when the machines for demoliſhing fortifications were clumſy and feeble, and when famine, more frequently than force, compelled towns to ſurrender. The Barians, finding themſelves worn out with hard fare and inceſſant alarms, and foreſeeing that the obſtinacy of their adverſary would at length overcome their powers of defence, endeavoured to avert their ruin by cutting off the chief of the beſiegers;

with this intent, one Amerinus ſtole out of the city by night, and drawing up to the quarters of Guiſcard, attempted to kill him, by thruſting a poiſoned lance through the wattles of his hut; but the weapon proved too ſhort, and Robert, as we are told by his honeſt biographer Malaterra, took care to have the wickered walls of his cabbin well plaſtered over, to prevent ſuch attacks for the future.

Earl Roger ſoon after joined his brother with a ſtrong fleet, and helped him to carry on his aſſaults with ſuch vigour, that the beſieged were on the point of capitulating, when their hopes were revived by the appearance of an Imperial ſquadron coming to their relief, under Joſceline d'Avranches, a Norman gentleman, who had ſought his fortune in Greece, and ingratiated himſelf with the Emperor. The Greek ſhips were no ſooner deſcried, than Roger ſlipped his cables, and ran out to ſea to give them battle. Joſceline was true to his truſt, and bore down gallantly upon the Earl: the engagement was ſharp, but very ſhort; for the Greeks were no match for the Norman veterans. The Imperial veſſels were taken, ſunk, or diſperſed, and their admiral made a priſoner. Roger returned triumphant, and Bari opened its gates to the conquerors.

To ſecure the allegiance of ſo capital a town, a citadel was afterwards erected by King Roger; but it was ſcarcely finiſhed, when the Emperor Lotharius razed it to the ground. Upon the retreat of the Imperialiſts, Jacinthus aſſumed the title of Prince, and refuſed to ſubmit to the King, who laid ſiege to the city. Bari was then a populous

place, and made an obſtinate reſiſtance. The capitulation was honourable, but rendered invalid by a clauſe, ſtipulating, that all the Royaliſts, taken during the ſiege, were to be delivered up ſafe and unhurt. When the King made his entry into Bari, a Norman captive, who had been deprived of his ſight, and otherwiſe cruelly treated by the orders of Jacinthus, was led through the crowd to the feet of his ſovereign, to claim juſtice and vengeance. Roger, willing to ſeize any pretext for annulling the capitulation, aſſembled his council, declared the treaty void, and cauſed Jacinthus, with his principal adherents, to be hanged.

Majone, prime miniſter to William the Bad, was born at Bari, the ſon of a notary; but the affection, we may preſume, this favourite retained for the place of his nativity, did not prevent William from treating it with the utmoſt ſeverity. The Barians had joined in the grand rebellion againſt him, had demoliſhed his caſtle and palace, and given the furniture as plunder to their ſoldiers; therefore, when the chief citizens fell on their knees before him, ſuing for mercy, he anſwered all their ſupplications with theſe words: "You did not ſpare my houſe, how can you ex-" pect I ſhould ſpare yours?" They were ordered to diſlodge within the ſpace of two days, and their dwellings to be levelled to the ground. The city muſt have riſen very ſpeedily out of its ruins, as the Emperor Frederick eſtabliſhed an annual fair here in 1233, and in 1248, ordered the town to be deſtroyed, to puniſh the inhabitants for treaſonable practices.

The firſt perſon enfeoffed with the honours of Bari was Bohemund of Antioch, who accepted of theſe and other demeſnes in lieu of his birthright. The ſecond was Tancred ſon of King Roger; Jacinthus had them next. The Princes of Taranto, deſcended from Charles the Second, held them afterwards. Their heireſs carried this barony into the houſe of Baux, which was diſpoſſeſſed by Joan the Firſt. During her reign, John Pipino Earl of Minervino, uſurped this fief for a ſhort time. He was the ſon of an officer of the revenue, who, having amaſſed great riches by the management of the public money, or by treaſures found at Lucera, where he ſuperintended the expulſion of the Saracens, purchaſed large eſtates for his children. John was an empty vain-glorious man, deceived into a high opinion of his own conſequence by the flattery of miſcreants and paraſites, who flocked from all parts to ſhare the prodigal bounty of this new-made nobleman. The ſucceſs that attended an expedition againſt Nicholas Rienzi, the famous tribune of Rome, completed his intoxication. The Orſini and Colonna factions, being overpowered by that demagogue, craved aſſiſtance from Minervino, who always entertained a formidable band of ſoldiers ready for miſchief. Pipino embraced the opportunity of employing his troops, defeated Nicholas, and returned to Puglia mad with joy and pride. His inſolence, rapacity, and exceſſes now diſdained all bounds; and half the neighbouring provinces were deſolated by his lawleſs freebooters. The royal anger was at laſt rouſed, and a complete overthrow, near Aſcoli, cruſhed all

his glories; his adherents fled, and Pipino himſelf, abandoned and betrayed, was taken and hanged at a window of the caſtle of Altamura; his brothers ſhared his unhappy fate: and thus one generation ſaw the riſe and fall of this powerful family.

Ladiſlaus granted Bari to the Orſini Princes of Taranto, who afterwards enjoyed it almoſt as a free ſovereignty, having extorted from Alphonſus the Firſt the privilege of exporting all manner of commodities without paying any duties to the crown. This exemption brought in great riches, and rendered them very formidable, as Ferdinand the Firſt found to his ſorrow, in his wars with the Barons. While Aragon and Anjou were contending, James Caldora, a famous Abruzzeſe chieftain ſeized upon Bari, and his ſon Anthony aſſumed the title of Duke.

Upon the extinction of the houſe of Taranto, Bari reverted to the King, and was ſettled by Alphonſus the Second, upon the family of Sforza, in conſideration of the marriage of his daughter Iſabella with the Duke of Milan. According to treaty, theſe eſtates became the property of Bona Queen of Poland, at whoſe death this duchy returned to the crown; to which it has ever ſince remained annexed.

Our ſtay at Bari was prolonged by my fellow-traveller's being ſeized with a feveriſh complaint, which at firſt wore an alarming appearance, but ſoon took a favourable turn: however, he did not think it ſafe to continue his journey farther

farther ſouth, as the weather was growing very warm; and therefore determined to return to Naples as ſoon as poſſible. I continued our original route on the 29th of April.

The firſt place I came to was Mola di Bari, a town containing ſix thouſand ſouls, prettily ſituated on rocks, and very ſhewy from afar: what it may be on a nearer view I know not, as I rode paſt without ſtopping, my memorandums making no mention of any thing remarkable in it. I next paſſed by the Franciſcan convent of Cape San Vito, delightfully ſeated among the olive groves, on a neck of land jutting out into the ſea. Here travellers uſually dine or ſleep; but as it had been repreſented to me as a very bad place of baiting, I rode a mile farther for dinner to Polignano, a ſmall city, perched, like a bird's neſt, on a crag riſing perpendicularly out of the water. The biſhop reſides at Mola. The Caraccioli, Rodolvich, Toraldi, Stendardi, Boffa, and Lieto, have been ſucceſſively lords of this place.

The ſoil of the whole tract I travelled through this morning is ſhallow and rocky, covered with olive trees, which are the principal object of the cultivator's care, as oil is the main ſupport of commerce in this province. The rocks abound with pectinites of a large ſize.

While my dinner was preparing, I amuſed myſelf with looking at ſome peaſants caſting wooden balls with their feet; they are extremely dextrous at the ſport, lifting the ball up with their toe, and toſſing it a conſiderable length, along a high road as rugged and full of protuberances as the Glaciers of Switzerland.

In the afternoon, I had a pleaſant ride of five miles, through noble olive woods, to Monopoli. This city, like moſt others on the coaſt, deceives one by its outward appearance into an opinion of extent and magnificence, which vaniſhes on cloſer inſpection. The environs are neatly planted with fig, almond, and ſome few lemon and orange trees. I ſaw but one garden that had any ſhew of thoſe evergreen fruit-trees to boaſt of. Olives are the grand concern. The extent of the plantations of this valuable tree is really aſtoniſhing. I was aſſured that the olive woods reach from Monopoli twelve miles, on three ſides, without interruption. There are no great Barons in its immediate neighbourhood; and every burgher has his maſſaria or farm, which he cultivates on his own account. This territory is ſaid to yield annually twenty thouſand ſalme of oil.

Monopoli is a dark diſagreeable town, with narrow, crooked ſtreets, and very lofty flat-roofed houſes. It is ſuppoſed to have been originally a ſtation called Egnatiolum, and to have grown to the ſize and dignity of a city, by the ruin of Gnatia. In the firſt Norman partition, it fell to the ſhare of Hugh. The Capeci were for ſome time its poſſeſſors.

SECTION XXVI.

NEXT morning I was on horſeback before ſun-riſe, intending to make a very long day's journey; and being apprehenſive, from the heavy feel of the air, that I ſhould ſuffer from intenſe heat in the noon-tide hours. My prognoſtics were but too juſt; for a hotter ſun, and a more ſtifling ſultrineſs, could not be felt in the dog-days.

The ſoil of the country is a reddiſh petrifaction, evidently the ſame as the rocks upon the ſhore. As I rode along, the huge piles of ſea-weed, which almoſt form a rampart on the coaſt, appeared to be equally unaffected either by wind or waves. I alighted ſeveral times to examine theſe heaps, and found different degrees of hardneſs in them. Some were quite moiſt and mucilaginous; others already petrified on the ſurface, but ſoft and pliable within; others again thoroughly pervaded by the ſtony humour.

The ſwarth on the ſands is very poor, and produces few uncommon plants. One is a beautiful poppy, of a bright yellow colour.

At a mile's diſtance from Monopoli, the landſcape expands itſelf, and on the right hand diſcovers a long range of woody hills. The olive grounds in the plain are remarkable for their great extent, thickneſs of foliage, and ſize of trees.

They

They are pruned into the form of a cup, by cutting out the centric upright branches, in the ſame manner as gardeners trim gooſeberry buſhes. This treatment lets in an equal ſhare of ſun and ventilation to every part, and brings on an univerſal maturity.

Six miles farther are the ruins of Gnatia, the laſt ſtage but one of Horace's journey to Brunduſium, and now called Torre d'Agnazzo. Little remains except part of the ramparts, which, near the ſea, are entire as high up as the bottom of the battlements. Sixteen courſes of large ſtones are ſtill complete; and the thickneſs of this bulwark is exactly eight yards; an extaordinary breadth, which I aſcertained by repeated meaſurements. The town ſeems to have been ſquare, and its principal ſtreets drawn in ſtraight lines. On the moſt elevated part is a watch-tower; and probably this was the ſituation of the ancient citadel. Near it are ſome arches and vaults. The view towards Monopoli is extremely beautiful.

Want of water cauſed the deſtruction of Gnatia; a ſcarcity I had an opportunity of being made ſenſible of, and which naturally explains Horace's phraſe of

——Gnatia lymphis
Iratis exſtructa.——

The few paſtoral inhabitants of theſe ruins have no temples left to melt incenſe in without fire, for the diverſion or aſtoniſhment of paſſengers. But the art is not loſt in the kingdom;

kingdom; and, whether preſerved by tradition or revived by ingenuity, is ſtill practiſed with ſucceſs.

The ſtone employed in building along this coaſt, is cut with great eaſe in every part of the country. It is a ſoft whitiſh concretion, that hardens by being expoſed to the air. The method uſed by the quarrymen is extremely ſimple: they clear away the ſoil from the level parts, and then hew out regular cubes, which leave vacancies in the rock exactly reſembling ponds, baths, or reſervoirs, with flights of ſteps all round leading down to the bottom. Theſe holes are frequently filled up with earth, and olive ſets planted in them.

The cyſtus, which grows in great abundance on theſe waſte lands, exhaled ſo powerful an effluvium, when the ſun had been riſen ſome time, that I was overcome with it. One of the ſervants, already half dead with heat and fatigue, had the additional ill-fortune of being frightened almoſt out of his wits. As we were trotting along the burning ſands, he on a ſudden gave a loud ſhriek, and threw himſelf from his horſe, crying out that he was a dead man, for either a ſcorpion, a tarantula, or a ſerpent had ſtung him on the inſtep. On pulling off his boot, I found that his terrors and pains were cauſed by the rays of the ſun, which had penetrated through a hole in the upper leather, and raiſed a bliſter on the ſkin. The prepoſterous geſtures and expreſſions of this lazzarone ſupported my ſpirits till we arrived at a ſmall ſingle houſe, conſiſting

of a kitchen, loft, and ſtable, lately erected for the convenience of travellers, by the agents of the Order of Malta, to which the land belongs. The kitchen was too hot for me to breathe in, and the other two apartments as full of fleas as Shakeſpeare's inn at Rocheſter; ſo that my only refuge was the narrow ſhade of the houſe, which was contracted every minute more and more, as the ſun advanced towards the meridian. Behind the houſe then I ſat down, to dine upon the fare we had brought in our wallet. Unluckily I had not thought of wine or water, neither of which were now to be had tolerably drinkable; ſo that I was obliged to content myſelf with the water of a ciſtern full of tadpoles, and qualify it with a large quantity of wine, that reſembled treacle much more than the juice of the grape. While I held the pitcher to my lips, I formed a dam with a knife, to prevent the little frogs from ſlipping down my throat. Till that day I had had but an imperfect idea of thirſt.

As ſoon as we had recruited our ſtrength and ſpirits, we left the inn, and retired gradually from the ſea, drawing up towards the hills, through olive groves that afforded us a very welcome ſhade. Flocks of turtle doves ſkimmed acroſs the road; but, though they frequently fluttered near me, I reſpected the virtues aſcribed to them by the poets too much to think of ſhooting at them:—young ones are eſteemed a great dainty. The mode of killing them is very ſingular: When the ſun is vertical, and the ſky clear, a couple of

ſportſmen drive into the olive grounds in an open chaiſe, and move ſlowly, but continually, round the trees, till they ſpy a dove ſitting upon the boughs. The poor bird, ſtruck with the unuſual ſight, or giddy with the rotation of the wheels, fixes its eyes upon them, and whirls its head round in imitation of their motion. When the eye of the turtle is thus faſcinated, one of the fowlers ſlips out of the carriage, and fires his piece. Little ſtone baſons full of water are alſo frequently placed for the doves to drink at, while the ſhooter lies in ambuſcade behind a buſh.

At the end of ſix miles we rode up to Oſtuni, a poor epiſcopal city, on a ſteep rocky brow, overlooking a whole foreſt of olive trees, and a long range of coaſt. In the fourteenth century it belonged to the Sanſeverini, and afterwards to the Zevallas *.

* On a green before the church of the Capuchin friars, the Duke delle Noci was killed in ſingle combat by the Duke of Martina in 1664; at which time the fury of faſhionable murder raged with great violence among the proud ungovernable nobles.

A moſt famous duel was fought the ſame year between Don Francis Caraffa and Don Julius Aquaviva, who, after many bootleſs arbitrations, finding themſelves under an indiſpenſable neceſſity of deciding a family quarrel by the ſword, ſought for a proper place to engage in. No Roman Catholic ſtate would allow of a public duel, becauſe ſuch combats are anathematized by the eccleſiaſtical canons; they therefore applied to the imperial city of Nuremberg, and obtained leave to draw regular liſts, and to come to action, under the ſafeguard of that magiſtracy, in preſence of the nobility of the country. Don Francis was diſabled by a wound in the arm, and the victory adjudged to his antagoniſt.—The doughty knights embraced on the field of battle, and returned together very good friends to Naples. Such an adventure as this caſt a ridicule upon the practice, and co-operated with the growing effeminacy of manners in ſtifling the ſpirit of duelling.

We now entered a more agreeable atmoſphere, where the heat was tempered by a gentle breeze. The appearance of Oſtuni was ſo far from inviting, that I determined to travel to Francavilla that night. The road was ſtony, and continually up and down hill, through a poor deſert country, much covered with thin woods of unhealthy ſtunted oaks. Theſe hills are the ſouth-eaſt extremity of a ridge that runs out from the Apennines, at a point many miles to the north-eaſt of our road: we never came in ſight of any mountains. From hence to the cape of Santa Maria di Leuca *, there is not a ſingle eminence of any conſequence; the whole tract is rather an uneven plain than a hilly country. Without rivers, and almoſt without rivulets, yet from ſome extraordinary quality in the ſoil, and the vapours of ſubterraneous lakes, this province is ſurpriſingly fertile and vegetative. The exiſtence of underground reſervoirs is proved by the ſhallowneſs of the wells, and by the pools that appear wherever the level is low. All the rain that falls is ſwallowed up, before it can reach the ſea, by large cracks in the rocks, called Voraggini, or Abyſſes, marked down in the maps as lakes. In this corner of Italy every geographer, except Zannoni, draws, from the Apennines near Venoſa to the Capo di Leuca, an uninterrupted diagonal chain of lofty mountains, upon which is written, *Branch of the Apennines.* This line is engraved of a ſize that would, if

* The ancient Promontorium Salentinum, which terminates the peninſula of Japygia, at the tip of the heel of the boot, to which geographers have likened the ſhape of Italy..

it

it exiſted, render the communication between Bari and Taranto, as difficult as the paſſage of Mount Cenis or Sempion in the Alps. Had theſe geographers viſited the country they were about to delineate, or even enquired of the common carriers how they paſs this imaginary cordillera, they would ſoon have been made ſenſible of their error; for ſo little is the whole tract aforeſaid raiſed above the level of the ſea, that, from the round Knolls of Oria, a centrical point between Taranto and Brindiſi, there are few riſings high enough to prevent the eye from commanding a view as far as the ſea, in each direction. Had they attended to the idea conveyed by Virgil, in his deſcription of the diſtant appearance of this peninſula, they might have ſuſpected ſomething of the truth. That ſenſible poet plainly indicates the lowneſs of the Salentine ſhores, in the third book of the Æneid, where his Hero relates the voyage ſouthward, from that point of Epirus called the Acroceraunian mountains, now Monti della Chimera, which are not ſixty miles from Otranto:

Provehimur pelago vicina Ceraunia juxta;
Unde iter Italiam, curſuſque breviſſimus undis—
* * * * * * * *
Jamque rubeſcebat ſtellis Aurora fugatis,
Cùm ſemel *obſcuros colles*, *humilem*que videmus
Italiam *.———

* "We are carried on the waves near the Ceraunian cape, from which "point is the ſhorteſt paſſage to Italy.——And now Aurora roſe bluſhing, "after putting the ſtars to flight; when ſuddenly we behold the *duſky hills* "and *low ſhores* of Italy."

Could

Could they ſuppoſe ſo exact a deſcriber would have called Italy *low*, and ſpoken only of *hills*, lighted up by the riſing ſun, if there had been any mountains in the Salentine territory, where, from the narrowneſs of the land, they muſt have reached to the very edge of the water? Every one that knows any thing of the Italian atmoſphere, muſt recollect that ſixty miles is not a ſufficient diſtance to hide ſuch mountains as the Apennines from the ſight, if they really did extend their branches ſo near to Greece; and that to navigators their tops would be viſible in the morning, long before the low country at their feet.

Towards duſk, we left the high lands, and traverſing a well-cultivated champaign country, arrived at Francavilla, where, by the Prince's orders, I was received and treated with extraordinary reſpect.

SECTION XXVII.

I OUGHT to eſteem the next day as one of the moſt brilliant of my life; for I received honours ſufficient to turn the head of a plain Engliſh gentleman. As ſoon as I was dreſt, an audience was demanded by Don Domenico, the Steward, who having formerly officiated in the capacity of Clerk of the Chamber to the Princeſs, was perfectly qualified for the poſt of Maſter of the Ceremonies. Being admitted in his gala ſuit of many colours and antique cut,

cut, he expreſſed his diſappointment on finding he had the honour of receiving but one *Nobile Signore* inſtead of two, as his maſter had notified. After I had explained the reaſon of my friend's abſence, he launched out into pathetic compliments of condolance, and promiſed me, that the chaplain ſhould offer up prayers for his ſpeedy recovery. And now the Rector of the College, the Father Guardian of the Capuchins, and the Magiſtrates, entered in great form. The firſt addreſſed me in a ſhort, polite ſpeech, which he uttered with ſome embarraſſment. My introducer of Ambaſſadors whiſpered in my ear, that the Rector had compoſed a very eloquent harangue for *two* illuſtrious travellers; but on finding only one, had been obliged to lay it aſide, as he could not at a minute's warning adapt to the ſingular all the figures of rhetoric which were addreſſed to the dual number. What I loſt in his diſcourſe, was made up to me by the friar, who, with a naſal tone and many bows, beſtowed upon me every poſſible virtue, and ſtruck out ſuch wild metaphors, as quite enchanted his auditors, and almoſt threw me off my guard. He acquainted the company, that I travelled into foreign parts to collect oil for the lamps of ſcience in my own country; that my mother wit was the wick, and my eloquence the flame.—I was happy to diſmiſs the orators, and was accompanying them to the door, when my Mentor ſtopped me ſhort, leſt I ſhould make too great a conceſſion.

I was

I was afterwards conducted to the chapel, where the town-muſicians played, and a cloud of incenſe darkened the place during the whole ſervice; after which Don Domenico led me out to ſee the town, or rather to be ſeen, for we had a mob at our heels all the way. I was heartily ſick of my glory, and ſhould have fled from it, had I not been ſenſible how great a mortification it would have been to my hoſts.

Francavilla is large and regularly built; the ſtreets wide and ſtraight; the houſes ſhewy, though in a heavy ſtyle of architecture. Since the year 1734, when a conſiderable part of the town was thrown down by an earthquake, the inhabitants are ſo afraid of another viſitation, that they dare not raiſe their dwellings more than one ſtory above the ground-floor. The main ſtreet would be thought handſome even in a capital city. The avenues to the gates are well planted, and afford a pleaſant ſhade. The inhabitants, in number twelve thouſand, ſubſiſt by the ſale of oil and cotton, of which laſt they make very fine ſtockings. A great quantity of tobacco is raiſed in the lordſhip, which, by a compoſition entered into with the farmers of the revenue, is allowed to be cured and manufactured here into a ſpecies of ſnuff, in colour, flavour, and ſoftneſs, not a bad imitation of the Spaniſh.

The Capuchins have a ſpacious convent, and a new church, airily and fantaſtically fitted up: the pulpit and

confeſſionals are of inlaid wood, worked by the hands of a friar.

The college, directed by prieſts of the Scuolepie, is a large edifice, with many handſome halls and galleries. They teach, as far as philoſophy incluſively, to about half a dozen boarders, and a conſiderable number of day-ſcholars.

The principal pariſh-church is new, gay, and well lighted; but ſo ſtuccoed, feſtooned, and flowery, that the whole decoration is a mere chaos. The plan was drawn at Rome, but executed by a Puglian architect, who from caprice or blunder reverſed the diſpoſition of the parts, and opened the chief door at the head of the Latin croſs, a place uſually allotted to the altar and choir. This alteration is no improvement in the art, but, on the contrary, an experiment productive of very aukward effects. In a ſide chapel is a dark portrait of the Madonna, which was the cauſe of the foundation of the town.

In 1310, as Philip of Anjou, Prince of Taranto, was hunting in the foreſts, which then covered the face of the country, a ſtag was driven into a grotto, where the huntſmen diſcovered this wonder-working image. It was removed with great ſolemnity to a chapel, and, in order to encourage people to ſettle round it for its defence, Philip granted lands to all comers, with ten years exemption from taxes; and, as a pledge of the ſincerity of his intentions, named the colony *Francavilla*, or Freetown; and gave it

an olive tree, the emblem of peace and fertility, for its armorial ſeal.

The number of theſe devout paintings extant in the Neapolitan dominions, and ſaid by their legends to have been accidentally diſcovered in caverns, woods, or wells, need not ſurpriſe us, if we recollect that the Saracens frequently over-ran theſe provinces. On the approach of the Barbarians, it is natural to ſuppoſe that the Greeks, who were undoubtedly the painters of ſuch portraits, would hide what was moſt precious to them, and moſt obnoxious to the inſults of the infidels. The hiding-places were forgotten, either from the long reſidence of the invaders in the kingdom, or the deſtruction of thoſe who ſecreted the holy treaſures.

The Prince's manſion is a quadrangular caſtle, ſurrounded by a dry ditch. The apartments are ſpacious; but, as the owner has been abſent above fourteen years, every thing wears the face of neglect and decadency.

This and the adjoining manors were purchaſed, about the middle of the ſixteenth century, by the Imperiali of Genoa, from St. Charles Borromeo, archbiſhop of Milan; who, if we may believe his biographers, diſtributed in one day the whole purchaſe-money to the poor of his dioceſe, at that time afflicted with the joint ſcourges of peſtilence and famine.

The Marquis of Oria, grandfather to the preſent proprietor, reſided conſtantly on his eſtate; and being an adept in rural economy, managed all his concerns himſelf, received

his

his rents in kind, and, by his great ſkill in diſpoſing of his commodities to advantage, made every article turn to account. At preſent, very little remains unlet; the rents are paid as the crops are got in and ſold, not at ſtated days of payment. All tythes belong to the Lord of the Manor, who is the lay impropriator; for the Church has only its glebe. Many gentlemen of a ſecondary rank hold their lands of the Prince, as under-tenants, by the payment of a fixed fine for their inveſtiture, nearly in the ſame manner as our copyholders make ſurrenders, and hold eſtates by copy of court-roll. There are beſides many owners of land, not of noble degree, who pay the tenth of all their crops to the Prince.

After my walk, I ſat down to a pompous repaſt; but as the cook, who was never very ſkilful in his profeſſion, and had been twenty years retired upon half-pay, choſe to exert all his abilities on ſo grand an occaſion, it was ſcarcely poſſible to get down any of his ragouts, and out of the reach of all gueſſing to name a ſingle diſh. I could not prevail on Don Domenico, or any of my company, to partake of the feaſt; ſo that I ſat, like Governor Sancho, ſurrounded by all my officers, doctor, ſteward, chaplain, and muſicians. In one point my caſe differed from that of the 'ſquire errant; for the phyſician, inſtead of conjuring away the plates, was very attentive in recommending and preſſing me to eat of every diſh, though I

obſerved he durſt not venture to fix a name upon any one of them.

After this long and tireſome meal, I was left to take my afternoon nap, and in the evening entertained with the tragedy of Judith and Holofernes, acted by the young people of the town, in a theatre belonging to the caſtle. Their rude accent, forced geſtures, and ſtrange blunders in language, rendered their diſmal drama a complete farce. When the heroine murdered the general, the whole houſe ſhook with thundering burſts of applauſe; the upper part of his body was hidden by the ſide ſcenes; the lower parts lay on a couch upon the ſtage, and in the agonies of death were thrown into ſuch convulſions, kickings, and writhings, as melted the hearts and raviſhed the ſouls of the attentive audience. Judith then came forward, and repeated a long monologue, with her ſword in one hand, and a barber's block, dripping with blood, in the other. Never was tragedy-queen ſent off the ſtage with louder or more ſincere acclamations.

SECTION XXVIII.

May 2d. I TOOK a ride to Oria, a city romantically ſituated upon three hills, in the centre of the plains. The caſtle and cathedral ſtand boldly on the higheſt points. This is a place of great antiquity, a colony of Cretans; on its

its coins a minotaur *. Servilius, an officer of Octavius Cæsar, was here surprised by Mark Antony. In the lower ages it became part of the rich patrimony of the Baux. The Bonifazii were afterwards possessed of Oria; but about the year 1540 the last male heir of the family renounced his country and fortune with his religion, and retired to Geneva. The cause of this renunciation was the shameless conduct of his sisters, who, by living in public concubinage with the Viceroy and the Nuncio, brought disgrace upon their brother. The Marquisate now belongs to the Prince of Francavilla.

I continued my ride a few miles south, to another estate of the Imperiali, called Casalnuovo, through an open country, abounding with corn and cotton, prettily divided by rows of olive and almond trees. The cotton was just coming up, with two yawning lobes, exactly like the cotyledones of the common bean. It is of the shrubby kind, and, when full grown, resembles the raspberry plant. The pods of cotton are at top, and, when ripe, burst, and disclose a tuft of down, the wings destined to convey the seed through the air. The land intended for this crop is very neatly drest, and laid down in flat narrow ridges: the season for ploughing, between January and April. The cotton is then sown; and, as soon as the shoots appear, the

* Nummi Hyrinæorum.
ARG. 1. Cap. Palladis gal. noctua.=Minotaurus gradiens TPINAI.
2. Cap. Pallad.=Minotaurus IANIΔY.
3. Facies plena imb.=Minotaurus ANIΔY.

field is hoed, and weeded with a ſmall mattock. After a crop of cotton, it is uſual to take one of wheat, then one of barley or oats; afterwards the land is ſuffered to lie fallow, or is uſed as a paſture for ſheep during twelve months, and the enſuing year it is again fit for cotton. Theſe grounds are tilled in partnerſhip: the proprietor ploughs it the firſt time; the tenant gives it four ſubſequent ploughings, and furniſhes ſeed; the expence of the harveſt is born equally by both, and the profits halved between them. Hoers earn a carlino a day, and a good ploughman four carlini, or five grana and his victuals.

Caſalnuovo is a conſiderable town, without any buildings of note, except a large baronial manſion in the centre, begun by the late Marquis, and left unfiniſhed at his death. The ſuite of apartments is grand, but the ſituation uncomfortable, without garden or proſpect. He choſe to remove to this place, becauſe the rocky ſoil affords a ſolid foundation for a houſe, and the air is remarkably wholeſome; whereas Francavilla is the very reverſe, being built on a marſhy, unſound ſoil, where it is even difficult to find a bottom, and all the water has a brackiſh taſte.

This town contains about four thouſand inhabitants, noted for nothing but their taſte for dogs fleſh, in which they have no competitors that I know of, except their neighbours at Lecce, and the newly diſcovered voluptuaries of Otaheite. We did not ſee one animal of the canine ſpecies in the ſtreets; and woe be to the poor cur that follows

lows its maſter into this cannibal ſettlement! I could not prevail upon my conductor to own whether they had any flocks of puppies, as of ſheep; or took any pains, by caſtration or particular food, to fatten and ſweeten the dainty before they brought it to the ſhambles. I have ſince procured ſome information on the ſubject from impartial perſons, and find that the people of this neighbourhood are looked upon by the reſt of the kingdom as dog-eaters; and that it is certain that, both at Lecce and Caſalnuovo, many of the lower ſort reliſh a ſlice of a well-fed cur. At both places tanners kidnap dogs, and tan their hides into an imitation of Turkey leather, with which they ſupply the gentlemen of the neighbouring cities, who are nice in their ſlippers. This demand for falſe Morocco occaſions the ſlaughter of many dogs, and no doubt the cuſtom of eating their fleſh began among the needy tanners: hunger and experience have taught their countrymen to conſider the diſcovery as a very beneficial one. At Bari and Francavilla, horſe-fleſh is ſaid to be publicly ſold in the market; and the tail left on, to ſhew the wretched purchaſers what beaſt the meat belonged to. The wits among the populace nick-name theſe ſhamble horſes *Caprio ferrato*, i. e. a ſhod Deer.

The Bailiff of the Manor informed me, that it contained ſix convents of men and two of women; and that the Belles Lettres flouriſhed extraordinarily; for, beſides himſelf, he could reckon up twelve men of great learning in the

place,

place, who formed an academy; viz. two doctors of phyſic, two apothecaries, and eight men of the law. A tremendous junto for the poor Dog-eaters! There is neither trade nor manufactures here; the fruits of the earth are conſumed on the ſpot; if any remain above the conſumption, they are ſent to Taranto for ſale.

On this ſide ſtood Manduria, a city of the Tarentines, deſtroyed by Fabius Maximus in the ſecond Punic war. Its coins are ſaid to have been dug up lately, but I never ſaw any; traces of the old name exiſt in ſome fields called Il Campo Mandurino, and in a chapel dedicated to St. Pietro Mandurino. The Caſalnuovians being deſirous of reſuming the original appellation, have lately petitioned the King for leave to quit the name of Caſalnuovo, and to take that of Manduria in all public deeds.

At a ſmall diſtance from the town, the old walls are very diſcernible, raiſed ſeveral feet above the ground; they are double, except on the ſouth ſide, where the fortifications appear to have been left incomplete. The outer wall and its ditch meaſure eight yards in breadth; behind this bulwark is a broad ſtreet, and then an inner wall, which together meaſure fourteen yards. The ſtones are oblong, laid in courſes without mortar, and cut out of the ditch; the rocky ſtratum, which comes to the ſurface with very little covering of mould, is a concretion of ſea ſand and ſhells: theſe exuviæ of marine bodies, when decompoſed by the action of the atmoſphere, are converted into a moſt fer-

tile

tile ſoil. It is truly wonderful that ſuch fruitfulneſs ſhould exiſt in a country to all outward appearance as deſtitute of water as Arabia Petræa.

The greateſt curioſity here is a well, mentioned by Pliny in his ſecond Book *. In a field within the ancient incloſure, we deſcended ſeveral ſteps into a large circular cavern, lighted from above by a ſpacious aperture; the water comes from the north-weſt, and may be heard very diſtinctly under the rock; it iſſues out with force, and after running along a ſhort channel, loſes itſelf in a round baſon by ſome ſubterraneous conduits. What excites the admiration of the neighbours, as it did that of their forefathers, is, that at no time the water ever riſes or falls above a certain mark; if you throw in as much rubbiſh as will fill it half-way up, this acceſſion will nevertheleſs have no effect upon the level; even ſhould you heap up the dirt above the mark, the water will not riſe, but remain totally hidden; clear away the mud to the bottom, you will come to a hard ſmooth floor, without any ſigns of a chaſm for the water to run off by. As too much curioſity, if indulged in examining the conſtruction of this well, might endanger the loſs of the only ſupply of good drinking water in the townſhip, all experiments and removals are ſtrictly forbidden. The rock is of a very porous nature, and the water carried off by a

* Juxta oppidum Manduriam lacus ad margines plenus, neque exhauſtis aquis minuitur, neque infuſis augetur.

quick filtration: as the ſtream is no doubt formed by the overflowings of ſome underground lake or river coming from the vaſt reſervoirs in the boſom of the Apennines, and has other paſſages for its diſcharge, the well is probably filled with the backwater only, and therefore the dirt thrown in muſt of courſe prevent the water from entering the baſon*.

* Theſe eſtates have ſince eſcheated to the Crown, by the death of Michael Imperiali, Prince of Francavilla, without heirs. No collateral heir beyond the third degree of conſanguinity is capable of inheriting a fief in the kingdom of Naples.

TARANTO, and its ENVIRONS.

SECTION XXIX.

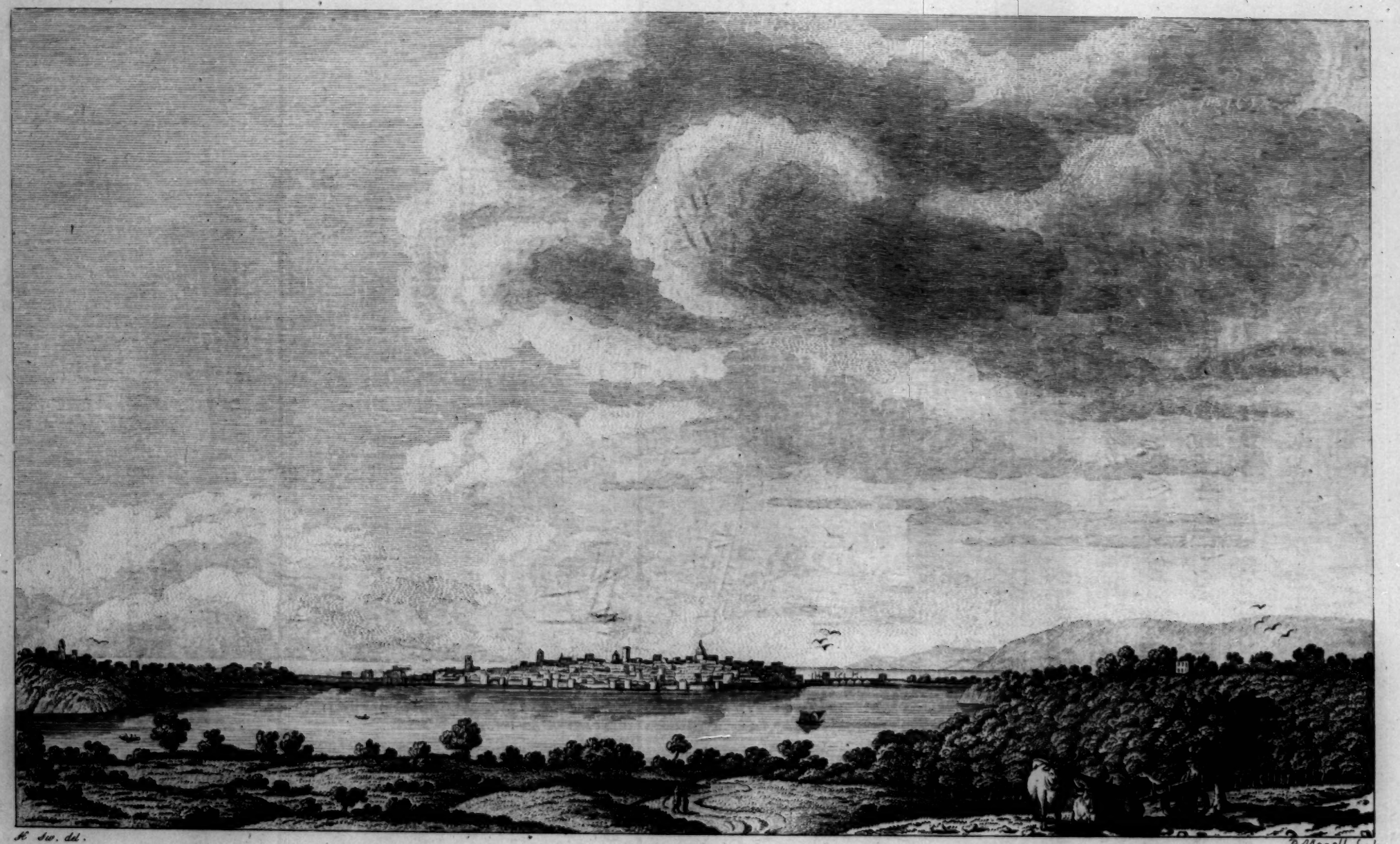
May 3d. } I LEFT Francavilla, eſcorted by four well-mounted and well-armed guards in the Prince's pay. Every great Baron* keeps a certain number of truſty determined fellows to protect his vaſſals, convoy his rents, and prevent depredations on his game and foreſts; they travel by the ſide of his coach to defend his perſon and baggage; but as I was under no apprehenſion of an attack, I diſmiſſed theſe attendants as ſoon as poſſible, and ſending the ſervants on to Taranto to prepare my reception, ſauntered ſlowly after them, that I might enjoy the pure morning breeze, and examine the country. Near Francavilla the ſoil is deep, and

* Our old Engliſh Barons had their Rod-knights or Radmen, who held lands of them on the condition of attending their perſons in their travels, and going whereſoever they pleaſed to ſend them.

cultivated with ſome degree of neatneſs; but I ſaw neither ſpring nor rivulet. Theſe farms are bounded by extenſive waſtes, where the rocks are ſcantily covered with a moſſy ſwarth. At Le Grottaglie, a large village belonging to Cicinelli Prince of Curſi, I arrived at the high plain of Oria, and by a ſteep deſcent entered the low one of Taranto; the ſeparation is not gradual, but ſuddenly made by a barrier of perpendicular rocks, that run from the mountains quite acroſs to the gulf. Le Grottaglie owes its origin to a concourſe of inhabitants from many towns and villages laid in aſhes by the Saracens; finding no other place of ſafety, the fugitives took refuge in theſe grottos and caverns, and by degrees recovering from their diſmay, ventured out and built dwellings above ground. By one of thoſe monſtrous contradictions, of which the feudal ſyſtem of Naples affords many examples, the criminal juriſdiction of this lordſhip appertains to the Archbiſhop of Taranto, while the civil is veſted in its Prince. The people of this town are ſaid to underſtand the buſineſs of a ſhepherd better than any of their neighbours, among whom their cream-cheeſes are in great repute. The country abounds in corn and wine, but of late years they have treated their vines with ſo little care, that the wine is quite fallen in the public eſteem; they make pottery-ware of a red colour, like that of the antique cups, but they fail in the art of tempering the clay, nor can they attain the ſame degree of lightneſs and tranſparency. After riding through a fine tract of orchards, I came in ſight

of

G.R. III.



R. Sw. del.

D. Mazell Sculp.

The CITY of TARANTO Anc.t TARENTUM from the NORTH SHORE of the MAREPICCOLO.

~ Site of the Ancient City. ~ Present Town. ~ Bridge & Aqueduct. ~~~ Mountains of Basilicata.

of the Mare Piccolo, or Little Sea, beyond which riſes the city of Taranto: the banks that incloſe the bay are ſo gently ſloped off as to create no very ſtriking effect; there is a tameneſs in the proſpect not unlike the inſipidity of the artificial lakes and elegant ſwells in our faſhionable gardens in England, totally different from the bold beauties of Italian landſcape. The country leading down to its verge is wild but agreeable; a ſhallow ſoil and moſſy turf, covered in many places with tufts of aromatic ſhrubs, and clumps of Carob trees that appear to be indigenous. Through this heath runs the Cervaro, a ſmall brook of whitiſh water, that falls into the bay at the north-eaſt corner, believed by ſome authors to be the Galeſus, becauſe it correſponds with the diſtance of five miles from Taranto aſſigned by Polybius: an additional proof might be alleged in the epithet *white*, given to the Galeſus by Martial, as agreeing with the preſent ſtate of the rivulet, the waters of which are ſtrongly tinged with the chalky or marly particles of the ſoil it runs over: this ſoapy quality may be ſuppoſed to have rendered them peculiarly efficacious in purifying and bleaching the fleeces that were waſhed in them. When Virgil applied the diſtinctive term *Niger* * to this ſtream, he is thought to have alluded to the thick pine groves that then ſhaded its banks. Propertius, by the following lines addreſſed to the Mantuan bard,

* Some commentators read *Piger*.

Tu canis umbroſi ſubter pineta Galeſi
Thyrſin et attritis Daphnin arundinibus *.

ſeems to inſinuate, that Virgil compoſed his Eclogues at Tarentum, or in ſome neighbouring villa; perhaps the ſame, where he ſays, he took leſſons of agriculture from Corycius the Illyrian pirate, tranſported by Pompey to theſe vallies.

Namque ſub Oebaliæ memini me turribus altis,
Quâ niger humectat flaventia culta Galeſus
Corycium vidiſſe ſenem †.

Whilſt I was combining the foregoing circumſtances in my mind, and endeavouring to ſatisfy myſelf that I was then actually ſtanding on the banks of ſo celebrated a river, an aged ſhepherd came up with his flock, and freely entered into converſation: I was glad of an opportunity of learning ſome particulars concerning the Tarentine ſheep, and the commonly received opinion that no white ones would now live in theſe paſtures, becauſe they ſoon would poiſon themſelves with the leaves of the *fumolo* (a ſpecies of hypericum criſpum, or St. John's wort of Linnæus's polyadelphia polyandria), though black ſheep may browze upon it with ſafety; for this reaſon, it is ſaid, no white ſheep are to be ſeen in the flocks, and no wool but of a black or dark brown colour.

* Thou ſingeſt, under the pine-groves of ſhady Galeſus, the loves of Thyrſis and Daphnis on thy ſmooth reeds.

† For I remember to have ſeen the aged Corycius near the lofty towers of Æbalia, where dark Galeſus waters the yellow fields.

The old man ſmiled at my queſtions, and pointing to many white ewes in his ſtock, anſwered, that it was not in conſequence of its colour, but of its ſpecies, that the animal ſuffered from thoſe noxious herbs; the *pecore gentili*, or delicate race of ſheep, are ſo much more liable to periſh by theſe and other accidents, than the *pecore moſcie*, or *carfagne*, a wilder and coarſer breed, that the former kind is almoſt deſtroyed.

To explain this matter ſatisfactorily, it is neceſſary I ſhould enlarge upon the ſubject, and recapitulate what we read of the flocks of the ancient Tarentines; the attempts made in latter times to revive the credit of the Puglian wool, with the cauſes which have defeated the intention, and rendered the ſcheme abortive. Columella informs us, that the Tarentines croſſed their delicate breed with fierce foreign rams of a beautiful tawny colour, and that the fleece of their lambs had the ſtrong gloſſy hue of the fire, with the downy ſilkneſs of the dam. To increaſe this luſtre and ſoftneſs, they uſed to buckle round the ſheep a ſort of leathern coat, which they took off occaſionally, leſt the beaſt ſhould ſuffer from exceſſive heat; then bathed and ſoaked the wool in wine and oil, till it was quite ſaturated with the rich fomentation. Before ſhearing time, the ſheep were waſhed in the Galeſus, and at all ſeaſons penned up in clean folds, and kept free from filth; they were never led out to feed till the ſun had dried up the dew, as the ſpirting of the drops from the graſs was apt to give them ſore eyes. This

proceſs,

proceſs, and the ſilence of the ancients concerning any particular whiteneſs in the wool of Tarentum, prove how much Sannazar, and other moderns, have confounded times and ideas, in praiſing it merely for its milky hue. The darkneſs of colour was by no means a hindrance to the imbibition of a deep purple dye, which was the tint moſt eſteemed by the Tarentines.

After the fall of Rome, a long train of wars and devaſtation deprived this country of all its acquired advantages, and even operated ſo direfully upon its climate and productions, as to vitiate thoſe it held of the bounty of nature. When the manufacturers as well as manufactures were deſtroyed, the prime commodities of courſe loſt their value, and it ceaſed to be worth the ſhepherd's while, even had the nicer arts of his calling been handed down to him, to take any pains in preſerving a purity of blood, or delicacy of covering in his breed of ſheep; thoſe perfections had no longer any admirers or chapmen, and conſequently the race very ſoon degenerated.

Frederick of Suabia took ſome ſteps towards retrieving this branch of traffic; but the misfortunes of his family rendered all thoſe projects viſionary. The introduction of ſilkworms from the Eaſt by King Roger, proved a fatal check to the demand for fine wool, and the heavy load of taxes impoſed upon this commodity by the Angevine Princes, after they had loſt Sicily, completed the deſtruction of the finer breed. On account of their tender conſtitution, they required

required expenſive houſing and conſtant attendance to make them turn to profit, and therefore the Puglian ſhepherds, being from indigence unable to procure ſuch conveniences, abandoned the delicate race, and attached themſelves to a rougher variety, which are generally black or brown, hardy, and able to feed with impunity on many plants and ſpecies of graſs that blind and weaken, if not poiſon, the Pecore gentili.

The breed was ſo debaſed in the fifteenth century, and the farmers reduced to ſuch miſery, that Joan the Second choſe rather to remit the taxes laid upon wool by her brother, than attempt any method of amelioration, for which ſhe wanted both ſkill and ſteadineſs.

Alphonſus the Firſt, who had greater views, and was bleſt with more peace and leiſure than his predeceſſor, reſolved to procure for his Neapolitan dominions ſome of the ſubſtantial advantages which his kingdom of Aragon had experienced from an improved breed of ſheep, ſent as a preſent to one of his anceſtors from a King of England. To obtain this end, he cauſed a proper number of ewes and rams, the progeny of thoſe Engliſh ſheep, to be tranſported into Puglia. Ferdinand the Firſt, ambitious of ſupporting his father's ſyſtem, encouraged the woollen manufacture, by inviting workmen from all foreign parts where that trade flouriſhed: but the duties impoſed by theſe two Kings produced ultimately very pernicious effects, for they lay heavy upon the poorer claſs of farmers, and the ſale of wool was not ſufficient to indemnify them for loſſes ſuſtained by bad years and accidents.

The oppreſſions of needy and ignorant Viceroys, who were obliged to anticipate and mortgage every revenue to ſupply the continual demands of the Spaniſh miniſtry, increaſed the evil to ſuch a height, that at laſt the white breed was entirely forſaken, and at this day the number of Pecore gentili is extremely inconſiderable within the diſtrict of Taranto. Very little nicety is now obſerved in the choice of rams, or in proper croſſes, by which means the wool is not ſo fine as it might be, though it be ſtill of a good quality. Better management and employment of the raw materials at home, might create an inexhauſtible fund of wealth for the ſtate. The fleſh of the Pecore gentili is more flabby, ſtringy, taſteleſs, and therefore cheaper than that of the Moſcia; and there is a penalty upon any butcher that ſhall paſs off the mutton of the former for that of the latter.

SECTION XXX.

SOON after I left the ſhepherd, I paſſed near ſome rubbiſh which antiquaries call a remnant of the wall of the Japygians. It was forty miles long, and erected by that ancient people from ſea to ſea, in order to divide their territories from thoſe of the Meſſapians. I next reached a delicious vale, called Le Citrezze *, where a ſtream riſes in a baſon about

* The Tarentines call this the Galeſus; D'Anville and Zannoni give that name to a river that diſcharges itſelf into the Mare Grand. The ſpring of the

about three hundred yards from the ſea. The waters occaſion a perpetual verdure in the meadows, and groves of aged olive trees defend them from the ſcorching ray, and from all winds but the ſoft zephyrs that play upon the ſurface of the Mare Piccolo. I alighted to enjoy the charms of this ſweet ſequeſtered ſpot, and while my eyes ranged over the beautiful landſcape, ſuffered my imagination to wander into a chain of melancholy reflections on the general viciſſitudes in the fate of empires, and on the deſtiny of Taranto in particular. All was then ſtill in that port, where the trading veſſels of half the world rendezvouſed. One ſingle fiſhing boat diſturbed the boſom of thoſe waters, where the mighty navy of Carthage once diſplayed its flag. Of all the temples, gymnaſia, theatres, and other monuments of glory and opulence, not ſo much as a ſingle column riſes upon the hill where Tarentum once ſtood: the paultry buildings of ſome mean convents, inhabited by the moſt inſignificant of friars, mark its ancient ſituation; while the modern city, crowded into a narrow iſland, holds the place of the old citadel, and ſtill reſembles a fortreſs more than an emporium of trade. But in deſpite of this change in its fortunes, the appearance of Taranto is replete with wonderful beauties. At my feet,

the Citrezze is deep, and therefore anſwers Virgil's epithet of black. The very little extent of its courſe correſponds with the ancient opinion of its being the ſhorteſt of all rivers; but ſtill I cannot underſtand how ſo trifling a rill could be deemed a river, and be called Eurotas by the Parthenii from its reſemblance to the river of Lacedemon; or how numerous flocks could wander on its banks, and be waſhed in its waters.

the Mare Piccolo rolled its gentle waves, ſtretching from eaſt to weſt, in the ſhape of an oval lake, divided into two unequal bays by a narrow promontory; olive woods clothe the foreground on both ſides, and the oppoſite hills appear rich in orchards and corn fields. Over the city, the Mare Grande, or outer port, ſome ſhips at anchor, iſlands, capes; and behind, all the blue mountains of Baſilicata complete the proſpect. A long bridge of ſeven arches joins the city to the continent on the north ſide; through them the tide flows with great impetuoſity, and nothing now but ſmall boats can be admitted by this paſſage, which was formerly the entrance of the harbour. But even in the time of the Romans, I think it evident from what Appian ſays, that there were drawbridges, by which the garriſon of the citadel preſerved a command over the veſſels in port. Had the mouth been quite free, the Tarentine fleet in the ſecond Punic war could not have been ſo completely blocked up, as to render all attempts to break through utterly fruitleſs. At each arch is fixed a frame for hanging nets to intercept fiſh as they run up into the little ſea with the flow, or fall back with the ebb; and upon this bridge is carried the aqueduct that ſupplies the town with water.

Tolita King of the Goths is ſaid to have been the firſt that erected an aqueduct on this north ſide; others attribute it to the Emperor Nicephorus. It was built in the preſent form and direction in 1543. The ſources lie twelve miles diſtant from Taranto in the mountains of Martina, where many

many grooves and cuts in the heart of the rock collect the ſtraggling rills and filtrations, and bring them together at a ſpot called Valdenza; from thence the waters run to Triglio, where they fall into immenſe reſervoirs, and then paſs under ground to the deep ciſterns at Tremiti. At La Follia they riſe to-day, and keep an open courſe for ſeven miles, till they enter an arcade of two hundred and three arches in very bad repair, overgrown with ivy, and oozing at every joint; the water is conveyed through hollow ſtones, each of which has a ſpout that fits into the next.

The ſhape of Taranto has been likened to that of a ſhip; of which the caſtle at the eaſt end repreſents the ſtern, the great church the maſt, the tower of Raymund Orſini the bowſprit, and the bridge the cable. It ſtands upon the ſite of the ancient fortreſs, but I believe occupies rather more room:—it was formerly joined to the continent by a narrow neck of ſand, which occaſioned William of Puglia to ſay, That Tarentum would be an iſland, but for a ſmall riſing ground.

Inſula mox fieret modicus ni collis adeſſet.

Ferdinand the Firſt being apprehenſive of an attack from the Turks, ordered the iſthmus to be cut through, and the ſea to be let in. Philip the Second cauſed the paſſage to be widened and deepened ſo as to admit veſſels; but it was afterwards choked up with ſand and filth, and, by the ſtagnation of its waters, became a great nuiſance. The air of Taranto

ranto was grievouſly affected by it till 1755, when it was again cleared out by the King's directions. The ſtreets are remarkably dirty and narrow, eſpecially the Marina, which runs along the Mare Piccolo, and is, without diſpute, the moſt diſguſtful habitation of human beings in Europe, except, perhaps, the Jewiſh Ghetto at Rome. The only tolerable ſtreet is a terrace above the ſteep rocks that hang over the Mare Grande, and prevent all acceſs on that quarter. The cathedral, dedicated to Saint Cataldus, whom the Legend calls a native of Raphoe in Ireland, has little merit: it is a melancholy conſideration, that the chapel of the patron has been decorated at the expence of almoſt every monument of the ancient city. The granite columns, taken from its ruinated fanes, are aukwardly crowded under the ill-proportioned roof of this church. The ſquare near the bridge is the only opening of any extent, and the general reſort of the citizens in ſummer, when they ſit round the fountain to enjoy the ſoft evening breeze, and refreſh themſelves with the fanning of the balmy air. But modern Taranto cannot boaſt of that degree of ſalubrity at all ſeaſons, which rendered the ancient city the delight of voluptuaries and valetudinarians. A failure of cultivation, and of attention towards keeping the paſſages for water free, cauſes ſome degree of malignity in its climate during the hot months; but there is great reaſon to hope theſe inconveniencies will be removed by the patriotic and judicious endeavours of the preſent Archbiſhop Monſignor Joſeph Capecelatro, who has

has abandoned the road that leads to the purple, and other objects of ecclesiastical ambition, in order to devote his life and talents to the welfare of his flock, and the improvement of his native country.

I was lodged at the Celestine convent, a neat house, built upon the ruins of a temple. The Prior received me with great politeness, and at supper treated me with the most varied service of shell-fish I ever sat down to. There were no less than fifteen sorts, all extremely fat and savoury; especially a small species of muscle, the shell of which is covered with a velvet shag, and both inside and outside is tinged with the richest violet colour. I tasted of all, and ate plentifully of several sorts, without experiencing the least difficulty in the digestion.

SECTION XXXI.

THE day no sooner appeared than my impatience hurried me out of the Porta di Lecce to examine the ruins of Tarentum, a city so often the subject of my most favourite reading, and so truly interesting by its glory and misfortunes. Not to leave any part unobserved for want of method, I directed my steps along the shore of the Mare Grande, which gradually draws off to the south, towards Cape San Vito. The slight remains of an amphitheatre did not detain me long, as the *opus reticulatum* proved it to be Roman

Roman work; and at that moment my enthuſiaſm was all directed towards monuments raiſed by the Tarentines, while they were a free Grecian ſtate, not thoſe they erected in ſervile compliance with the ſanguinary taſte of their conquerors. In vain did I run over fields and gardens, and examine with nice attention every ſtone that had any thing of the venerable appearance of antique workmanſhip; to my utter aſtoniſhment not a ſingle ruin occurred, ſcarce a mark was left that ſuch a city ever exiſted on the ſpot! Never was a place more completely ſwept off the face of the earth than Tarentum. Its ſplendid annals need be as well authenticated as they are by hiſtorians, who had ocular or at leaſt circumſtantial evidence of its exiſtence, for us to believe that a rival of Rome once raiſed her proud towers, and arrayed her numerous armies, along theſe now loneſome hills. About two miles and a half from the gate, I diſcovered veſtiges of aqueducts, and had ſome reaſon to think I had found the point where the city-wall made a returning angle, and croſſed the iſthmus in a north-weſt direction, in order to join the Mare Piccolo, leaving an incloſure within, of the form of an equilateral triangle. But, as even ruins were wanting to aſſiſt me in my ſearch, it was impoſſible for me to determine the extent with any degree of certainty. The hints given in the writings of ancient hiſtorians are too vague to lead us with any preciſion to the true topography of the place.

I re-

I returned to town by the banks of the Mare Piccolo, a pleaſant walk, and moſt delightful view.

Near the Alcanterine convent is a ſmall hillock, wholly formed of the ſhells of fiſh employed by the ancients in the compoſition of their celebrated purple dye; and not far from it are the remains of ſome reſervoirs and conduits appertaining to the works. My readers may not be ſorry to meet with a deſcription of the teſtaceous fiſhes that furniſhed the precious ingredient, and of the methods uſed in extracting and preparing it, taken from the accounts extant in the claſſic authors, and the diſſertation of modern naturaliſts.

Purple was procured from two ſorts of ſhell-fiſh, the Murex and the Purpura, both belonging to the Teſtacea, or third genus of Linnæus's ſixth claſs.

From the former a dark blue colour was obtained; the latter gave a brighter tint, approaching to ſcarlet. The body of the animals that inhabit theſe ſhells, conſiſts of three parts. The loweſt, containing the bowels, remains fixed in the twiſted ſcrew at the bottom, for the purpoſe of performing the digeſtive functions: it is fleſhy, and tinged with the colour of its food. The middle diviſion is of a callous ſubſtance, and full of liquor, which, if let out of its bag, will ſtain the whole animal and its habitation. The third and upper part is made up of the members neceſſary for procuring food, and perpetuating the race. The Murex generally remains faſtened to rocks and ſtones. The Pur-

pura, being a fiſh of prey, is by nature a rover, and one of the moſt voracious inhabitants of the deep. The proper ſeaſon for dragging for this ſhell-fiſh, was in autumn and winter. To come at the liquor, the ſhell was broken with one ſmart blow, and the pouch extracted, with the greateſt nicety, by means of a hook. If the ſhells were of a ſmall ſize, they were thrown by heaps into a mill, and pounded.

The veins being laid in a ciſtern, ſalt was ſtrewed over them, to cauſe them to purge and keep ſweet, in the proportion of twenty ounces of ſalt to a hundred pounds of fiſh. They were thus macerated for three days; after which the mucilage was drawn off into a leaden cauldron, in order that the colours, by being heated therein, might acquire additional luſtre and vivacity, as all marine acids do by a mixture with that metal. To keep the veſſel from melting, eighteen pounds of water were added to a hundred and fifty pounds of purple, and the heat given horizontally to the kettle, by means of a flue brought from a furnace. By this proceſs, the fleſhy particles were carried off, and the liquor left pure, after about ten days ſettling.

The dye was tried by dipping locks of wool in it, till they had imbibed a dark blue colour. As the colour of the Murex would not ſtand alone, the dyers always mixed a proportion of Purpura juice with it. They ſteeped the wool for five hours; then ſhook, dried, and carded it; dipped it again and again, till it was ſaturated with the dye. The proportion requiſite for ſtaining fifty pounds of wool with the

the fineſt deep amethyſt colour, were twenty pounds of Murex to a hundred and ten of Purpura. To produce the Tyrian purple, which reſembled the colour of congealed blood, it was neceſſary firſt to ſteep the wool in pure unboiled Purpura juice, and then let it lie and ſimmer with that of the Murex. By different mixtures of thoſe two dyes, varieties were obtained, according to the changes of faſhion, which ran into violet till the reign of Auguſtus, when it inclined to the Tarentine ſcarlet; and this ſoon after made way for the Diabaſa Tyria, the moſt extravagantly dear of all the tints. We read of fleeces being dyed upon the backs of the ſheep; but remain in the dark as to the method and advantages of that proceſs.

The Greeks, who were never at a loſs for an ingenious fable to cover their ignorance of origins and cauſes, attributed the diſcovery of purple to the dog of Hercules, which, in a range along the ſhore, met with a ſhell-fiſh, and greedily cruſhed it between its teeth. Inſtantly an indelible purple ſtained its muzzle, and by this accident ſuggeſted the firſt idea of dying cloth. The art was moſt undoubtedly practiſed in times of very remote antiquity. Moſes and Homer mention compound colours: the wife of Alcinous is deſcribed as ſpinning wool tinged with marine purple.

Below the ruins of theſe reſervoirs, the ſhore is thickly ſtrewed with fragments of Etruſcan vaſes, ſimilar in colour and deſign to thoſe depoſited in the cabinets of the curious.

Cloſe by this place, the beach is covered with bits of plain red ones. A little nearer the city is the Argentaria, a bank ſo called from a tradition of the gold and ſilver ſmiths having had their ſhops there. It ſtill deſerves the name, from a number of medals, rings, chains, and other trinkets, that are conſtantly dug out of it.

SECTION XXXII.

I DEVOTED the afternoon to a water party, taking with me one of the oldeſt and moſt intelligent of the Tarentine fiſhermen, to ſhew me the fiſhing and ſpawning places, and explain the different ſeaſons and methods of catching fiſh. We took boat, and rowed up the ſouthern ſhore of the Mare Piccolo, with an intention of meaſuring the whole circumference, which Strabo fixes at one hundred ſtadia, or twelve Engliſh miles and a half. According to my calculation, the circuit of the weſtern part is not more than half as great as that of the eaſtern one; and both together, by a rough eſtimate, are about ſixteen miles. This increaſe may be accounted for by the deſtruction of all the parapets and walls of the old city, the wearing away of the banks, and overflowing of the low grounds. A tide is very perceptible, eſpecially when the moon changes, and ſtill more ſo at the ſolſtices and equinoxes; but very feeble in compariſon of the tides in the ocean: however, it ſerves to

keep the waters of this land-locked bay ſweet, and to bring in caravans of fiſh, that fatten and breed in its quiet pools. When the Scirocco blows hard, the waves are driven up with great violence, and navigation becomes perilous for ſmall veſſels.

The firſt objects of my curioſity were the beds of Cozzenere, or muſcles, the greateſt and moſt conſtant ſupply of the market. Their ſpawn is dropt in the mud. About the twenty-firſt of March, little muſcles begin to riſe up, and cling to long ſtakes driven by the fiſhermen into the water under the city wall, and in the caſtle ditch. There they thrive and grow in ſtill water, while the waſhings of the ſtreets ſupply them with rich and copious nutriment. In Auguſt they are as big as almonds, and are then drawn up with the poles, and ſown on the oppoſite ſide of the Mare Piccolo, among the freſh-water ſprings.

About the middle of October they are again dragged up, ſeparated, and ſcattered over a larger ſpace. In ſpring, they are brought to market, long before they arrive at their full growth. This haſte proceeds from the avidity of the officers of the revenue, who receive a duty of four carlini a cantaro for them, whether old or young.

When a long continuance of heavy rains ſwells the little ſtreams that diſcharge themſelves into this gulf, the waters become muddy, and theſe fiſh are then obſerved to grow diſtempered, rotten, and unwholeſome. The cauſe of this malady lies in the noxious fragments of animals, putrid vegetables,

vegetables, oily, bituminous, and ſulphureous particles, waſhed from the earth by the ſhowers. They cut the tender fibres or fingers which the fiſh ſtretches out, miſtaking them for wholeſome food. The wounded parts feſter, and poiſon the whole body. It is an obſervation made here, and confirmed by long experience, that all the teſtaceous tribe is fuller, fatter, and more delicate, during the new and full moon, than in the firſt and laſt quarters. The difference is accounted for by the tides and currents, which ſet in ſtronger in the new and full moon, and bring with them large quantities of bruiſed fiſhes, inſects, fruits, and other fattening nurture. I was aſſured that nothing cauſes fiſh to ſpoil ſooner than leaving them expoſed to the beams of the moon; and that all prudent fiſhermen, when out by night, cover what they catch with an awning. If they meet with any dead fiſh on the ſtrand, or in the market, they can always diſcern, by its colour and flabbineſs, if it be *allunato*, moon-ſtruck; and, except in caſes of great neceſſity, abſtain from it as unwholeſome. Not having an opportunity of verifying this aſſertion, I give it as doubtful; for I know the Italians are apt to attribute to the baneful influence of the moon many ſtrange effects, which philoſophers of other nations do not aſcribe to it. No Italian will lie down to ſleep, where moonſhine can reach him.

The Cozze Peloſe, or velvet muſcle, is firſt dragged for in the Great Sea, and then ſcattered to breed on Sciaie, or heaps

of ſtones ſunk by the fiſhermen at every head-land of the Mare Piccolo.

Under the Piano, or eaſtern ſhore, are the oyſter-beds: no coaſt affords a more exquiſite ſort. In winter, large hampers of them are ſent over land to Naples. The ſeaſon is confined by law to a term between the 25th of November and Eaſter Sunday.

Brunduſium was the great ſupplier of oyſters for the Roman tables. From that port, the ſpawn was carried to ſtock their public reſervoirs at the Lucrene Lake, near Baiæ; and no mention is made by the ancients of the excellence of any Tarentine ſhell-fiſh except the ſcallop *. It is therefore not unlikely that oyſter ſpawn has been brought to Taranto from Brindiſi, and better preſerved than at the original bed, where the obſtructions in the mouth of the harbour have ruined all the fiſheries †.

The

* Pectinibus patulis jactat ſe molle Tarentum. HOR. Sat.

† I received from my friend, F. Ant. Minaſi, the following Liſt of Shell-fiſh found in the Tarentine waters. He drew it up according to the Linnæan ſyſtem from a large aſſortment of ſpecimens, which he was commiſſioned to claſs, before they were preſented by the Archbiſhop of Taranto to the Infant Don Gabriel. Had my learned correſpondent had an opportunity of viſiting thoſe ſeas, it is more than probable that his piercing and experienced eye would have diſcovered other ſpecies, if not genera, of fiſhes.

1. Chiton ſquamoſus et cinereus
2. Lepas balanus
3. Lepas anatifera
4. Lepas teſtudinaria—altera radiis 6, et altera 5.
5. Pholas dactylus cum cardine recurvato connexoque cartilagine
6. Mya pictorum
7. Solen enſis
8. Solen legumen
9. Solen ſtrigilatus
10. Tellina anomala
11. Tellina carnaria
12. Tellina roſtrata
13. Tellina Punicea
14. Tellina fragilis

15. Tellina

The papyraceous Nautilus is ſometimes, but very rarely, ſeen ſpreading the wonderful mechaniſm of its ſail and oars

15. Tellina planata
16. Cardium aculeatum
17. Cardium edule
18. Cardium ruſticum
19. Mactra ſtriatula
20. Donax trunculus
21. Venus læta
22. Venus Paphia
23. Venus callypige
24. Venus deflorata
25. Spondylus Gæderopus
26. Chama antiquata
27. Arca Noæ
28. Arca barbata
29. Anomia ephiſſium
30. Mytilus edulis
31. Pinna nobilis
32. Argonauta Argo
33. Buccinum galea
34. Buccinum maculatum
35. Buccinum Tritonis
36. Echinus Cidaris
37. Echinus eſculentus
38. Echinus ſaxatilis
39. Echinus mamillaris
40. Echinus placenta
41. Serpula anguina
42. Oſtrea edulis
43. Oſtrea Jacobea
44. Oſtrea bullata
45. Oſtrea puſio
46. Oſtrea ſanguinea
47. Oſtrea varia
48. Oſtrea lima
49. Oſtrea radula
50. Cyprea talpa
51. Cyprea lurida
52. Cyprea caput ſerpentis
53. Cyprea pediculus
54. Conus monachus
55. Bulla aperta
56. Bulla Naucus
57. Bulla hydatis
58. Voluta cancellata
59. Voluta glabella
60. Buccinum echinophorum
61. Strombus pes pellicani
62. Strombus lentiginoſus
63. Murex ſaxatilis
64. Murex reticularis
65. Murex coſtatus
66. Murex cutaceus
67. Murex puſio
68. Murex cornutus
69. Murex erinaceus
70. Murex pileare
71. Murex triqueter
72. Murex fuſcatus
73. Trochus teſſulatus
74. Trochus umbilicaris
75. Turbo cochlus
76. Turbo pullus
77. Turbo nodoloſus
78. Helix picta
79. Nerita littoralis
80. Nerita canræna
81. Nerita rufa
82. Haliotis Midæ
83. Patella ſinuata
84. Patella lutea
85. Patella ruſtica
86. Patella fuſca
87. Patella puſtula
88. Patella Græca
89. Dentalium dentalis
90. Dentalium corneum
91. Serpula arenaria
92. Serpula vermicularis
93. Serpula contortuplicata.

in

in the ſmooth bays of the Mare Grande; and ſometimes fiſhermen ſurpriſe trumpet-ſhells of a prodigious bulk aſleep, floating on the ſurface of the water in a ſultry day.

Very fine branchy coral is found along the coaſt eaſt of the city. The places are kept a profound ſecret. Marks are ſet up on land, by which the Tarentines ſteer their courſe, and ſink their hooks and croſs-beams exactly in the middle of a coral bed, while ſtrangers muſt row about the whole day dragging, without a guide, or certainty of bringing up a ſingle twig. There was, a few years ago, ſuch abundance of coral near theſe ſhores, that a boat's crew was once known to draw up in one day as much as ſold for five hundred ducats (93*l.* 15*s.*). Large pieces may be had for about five ducats *per* rotolo, which at Taranto contains only thirteen ounces.

Under Cape St. Vito, once famous for an abbey of Baſilian monks, and in moſt parts of the Mare Grande, the rocks are ſtudded with the Pinna Marina. This bivalved ſhell of the muſcle tribe frequently exceeds two feet in length. It faſtens itſelf to the ſtones by its hinge, and throws out a large tuft of ſilky threads, which float and play about to allure ſmall fiſh: amidſt theſe filaments is generally found, beſides other inſects, a ſmall ſhrimp, called by the ancients, Cancer Pinnotheres, by the modern Tarentines, Caurella. This little cruſtaceous animal was imagined to be generated with the Pinna, and appointed by nature to act as a watchman, in apprizing it of the approach

of prey or enemies; and that, upon the leaſt alarm, this guard ſlipt down into the ſhell, which was inſtantly cloſed: but more accurate obſervers have diſcovered, that the poor ſhrimp is no more than a prey itſelf, and by no means a centinel for the muſcle, which in its turn frequently falls a victim to the wiles of the Polypus Octopedia. In very calm weather, this rapacious pirate may be ſeen ſtealing towards the yawning ſhells with a pebble in his claws, which he darts ſo dexterouſly into the aperture, that the Pinna cannot ſhut itſelf up cloſe enough to pinch off the feelers of its antagoniſt, or ſave its fleſh from his ravenous tooth. The Pinna is torn off the rocks with hooks, and broken for the ſake of its bunch of ſilk called Lanapenna, which is ſold, in its rude ſtate, for about fifteen carlini a pound, to women that waſh it well with ſoap and freſh water. When it is perfectly cleanſed of all its impurities, they dry it in the ſhade, ſtraiten it with a large comb, cut off the uſeleſs root, and card the remainder; by which means they reduce a pound of coarſe filaments to about three ounces of fine thread. This they knit into ſtockings, gloves, caps, and waiſtcoats; but they commonly mix a little ſilk as a ſtrengthener. This web is of a beautiful yellow brown, reſembling the burniſhed gold on the back of ſome flies and beetles. I was told that the Lanapenna receives its gloſs from being ſteeped in lemon juice, and being afterwards preſſed down with a taylor's gooſe.

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SECTION XXXIII.

THE ſeas of Taranto are as copiouſly ſtocked with the ſcaly and finny tribe, as with the cruſtaceous and teſtaceous. The quantity and varieties are very conſiderable; but fiſh caught in the leſſer ſea bears the higheſt price, as ſurpaſſing in delicacy and firmneſs that taken in the larger. This is contrary to what we experience in other countries, and muſt be owing to ſome peculiar quality in the water and ſituation; for, in general, fiſh found in ſtill bays, and near the ſhore, is inferior in taſte to that which is captured farther out, and in places where the currents beat it about, and ſeem to keep it firm and wholeſome by conſtant motion *.

The

* I do not pretend to be acquainted with every ſort of fiſh brought to this market, as at leaſt a year's ſtay on the ſpot would be requiſite to acquire that knowledge; but it may be a ſatisfaction to many Readers to have a Liſt of trivial names, ſuch as it was roughly made out to me by the fiſhermen, and ſince compared with ſome imperfect catalogues I have had a ſight of.

Tarentine Name.	*Latin Name.*	*Tarentine Name.*	*Latin Name.*
Aguglia	Sudis	Fraio	
Anguilla	Anguilla	Faloppæ	
Arciola		Gugione	Gobio
Alice	Halex	Goſciolo	Mormyris
Abraiz	Rhombus	Linguatole	Solea
Cefalo	Mugil	Lutrino	Rubellio
Caſtaudielli	Acus	Lucerna	Lucerna
Calamais	Loligo	Murena	Murena
Cheppia	Thryſſa	Minchiarello	
Culinudi	Engraules		Mullus
Dentice	Dentatus	Moſa	

The people of Taranto depend upon their fiſhery for ſubſiſtence, and pay very heavy duties to the Crown, and rents to private perſons, for the right of fiſhing. The king receives from them annually three thouſand ſeven hundred and thirty-five ducats (700*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*) for rent, and five thouſand four hundred and thirty ducats (1018*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*), for the excluſive privilege. They purchaſe the beds for ſhell-fiſh of monaſteries and individuals, at the yearly expence of ſix thouſand one hundred and ſixty-eight ducats (1160*l.* 13*s.*); and beſides, all fiſh ſold to be carried out of the city is ſubject to a toll, farmed out at five thouſand ſix hundred and fifteen ducats (1052*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*) a year. An old regiſter book called Il Libro Roſſo, kept with great care and veneration in the cuſtom-houſe, points out the

Tarentine Name.	*Latin Name.*	*Tarentine Name.*	*Latin Name.*
Mazzoni	Aſellus	Scorfano	Scorpio
Orato	Aurata	Samagliaſtro	Sargus
Occhiata	Melanurus	Seccia	Sæpia
Orva		Sarde	Chalcis
Polpo	Polypus	Spigola	Lupus
Palamiti	Pelamydes	Sario	Saurus
Peſce zaffiro	Scarus	Sparitielli	Sparulus
Peſce ſpada	Xiphias *	Traulo	Lacerta
Ruonghi	Conger	Tonno	Thynnus †
Ricciola	Glaucus	Tremola	Torpedo
Storione	Acipenſer	Triglia	
Spina		Vopa	Boops
Soliole		Urigoli	Chelones.
Sarpa	Piſcis virgatus		

* This fiſh ſeldom makes its appearance ſo far north.

† No Tunny fiſhery is allowed here, leſt that boiſterous fiſh ſhould be driven up into the little ſea, and there diſturb and deſtroy the ſmall fry.

proper

proper ſeaſon for each ſpecies of fiſh, the method of propagating them, the nets allowed, and the duty to be exacted. The directors of the cuſtoms are very alert and rigorous in inforcing theſe regulations. They take care to clean the ſpawning places, and weed the mouths of the rivers that empty their waters into the Mare Grande. They rent thoſe ſtreams of the Barons in order to complete the monopoly, and prevent any diſturbance being given to the fiſh at improper times.

To return to my tour, which the fiſh had cauſed me to loſe ſight of, we paſſed under the banks of the Piano, where the ancients kept their wines in grottos called Diulos. The mouths of theſe excavations are now almoſt cloſed up with rubbiſh. Some perſons crept in lately, and found the floor ſtrewed with fragments of Amphore. During the canicular ſeaſon, there iſſues in the night-time from theſe caverns a moſt impetuous piercing wind.

From the Piano we rowed to the mouth of the Cervaro, and from thence to the promontory of Penna, which divides the little ſea into two unequal bays. As ſomething like the foundations of piers may be obſerved under water, it has been ſuppoſed by ſome authors that a bridge formerly exiſted, reaching from this cape to the Pizzone in the old city. It is poſſible there may have been a boom laid acroſs for greater ſecurity, or a paſſage made for the convenience of the citizens; but it is clear from Strabo, that anciently the port was ſhut up with a bridge in the very place where

we now ſee one. He ſays that the harbour is * cloſed up with a large bridge; a line drawn from the Penna would only ſecure half of it, and no efforts of the Romans could have confined the Tarentine gallies, had not the garriſon of the citadel been in poſſeſſion of ſtrong works and draw-bridges at the mouth of the harbour, which effectually commanded the paſſage.

Not far from the Penna is the Citrello, a ſpace of thirty-five yards by eight, where four ſtrong ſprings and ſeveral ſmall ones of freſh water force their way up, and preſerve their ſweetneſs amidſt the brine of the waves. Shoals of fiſh may be ſeen ſwimming over theſe *Occhi* or fountains, as it were to cool and cleanſe themſelves. Theſe boilers are only a continuation of the ſpring that produces the brook of the Citrezze.

From hence we paſſed under the bridge, where the current ſets in very ſtrong, and in boiſterous weather the navigation is hazardous. On the left hand, near the city wall, lies the ſhipping in tolerable ſafety, notwithſtanding the great expanſe of the Mare Grande. The force of the waves is broken by the iſlands of Santa Pelagia and St. Andrew, the ſhelves called Pietre Sizzoſe, and the two capes which complete the circle. Thoſe iſlands were known to the ancients by the name of Electrides or Chærades; and if we may judge by ſome ruins ſtill diſcernible near the water, were certainly inhabited. At preſent their only inhabitants are rab-

* Κλειομενος.

bits

bits that burrow in the ſand, and under the buſhes, with which their whole ſurface is overgrown. In 1594 Cicalà Baſſa anchored at St. Pelagia for ſeveral days, to the great terror of all the people along the coaſt. The intelligence he received of the country being alarmed, and troops marching to give him a warm reception, determined him to weigh anchor, and ſail for Turkey, without attempting to land.

I rode next morning into the country to ſee how far its actual fertility came up to the idea ancient authors have left us of it, and returned ſatisfied, that nature is ſtill ready to ſhew the ſame partiality, when called upon by the ſame induſtry and arts that tend to facilitate and improve her efforts. The early ſeaſon of the year prevented my forming any judgment of the fruits of the earth. Columella, Pliny, and Macrobius ſpeak highly of the pears of Tarentum, and praiſe its figs, cheſtnuts, walnuts, and ambroſial almonds. At preſent the moſt delicate of its figs is the Neapolitan, a ſmall black ſort that hangs on the tree till January.

The farmers take great care of their olive-trees; they manure and water the roots, plough the ground about them, and ſow it with corn, but never with oats; the ſtubble is cut off cloſe, and ſwept away, to make room for the fruit to fall, but is never ſet on fire for fear of damaging the trees; the boughs are not beaten, but the olives gathered.

The vines, which are kept low and upon pales, are the moſt healthy and vigorous I ever beheld; the wine is carried in ſkins as in the days of paganiſm, when it was a religious ceremony, as well as a gambol, to tumble over

the oiled leathern budget. I taſted no wine at Taranto that pleaſed my palate, or deſerved any commendation. Horace's Amicus Aulon, which critics have tranſported to every hill within ten miles of Taranto, nay even ſo far as Caſtelvetere in Calabria, ſeems to have been about ſix miles from the preſent town to the eaſt, at a part of the coaſt where a well-watered valley, full of orange and other fruit-trees, is ſheltered from every rude blaſt by an amphitheatre of low eminences, moſt happily adapted to the growth of the vine.

The arable lands are well cultivated, and produce wheat, oats, barley, and cotton in great abundance, and of an excellent ſound quality. The cotton manufacture employs thoſe poor Tarentines who are not able to follow the profeſſion of fiſhermen. The wages of a labourer in the fields is a carlino a-day. The uſual method is to divide the crop equally between the owner of the land and the farmer that tills it; but the extent of waſte grounds is immenſe, and whatever pains may be beſtowed upon corn land, nobody here has an idea of doing any thing to improve paſtures or meadows;—not a ſeed is ſown, weed deſtroyed, or barren buſh grubbed up.

The honey I taſted was ſo good, that I may affirm no degeneracy is perceptible among the modern bees of Taranto; and, that the poet might ſtill compare their produce to that of the bees of Hymettus*.

* ——Ubi non Hymetto
Mella decedunt.——

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SECTION XXXIV.

A SITUATION, bleſt with ſo delicious a climate, and ſo fine a haven, muſt have attracted the early notice of the Eaſtern navigators, who, like Columbus, Drake, and Cook, of modern times, ſailed from home in queſt of new worlds and unexplored coaſts. Some of them, no doubt, ventured up the Adriatic, in hopes of diſcovering unopened ſources of wealth, and commodious ſettlements for the colonies, which exceſs of population obliged the mother country to ſend forth. Let us conſider Taras in the light of another Cortez; but, inſtead of making him the captain of a troop of bigoted aſſaſſins, let us ſuppoſe him to have headed a ſet of civilized, humane men, deſirous of procuring a good eſtabliſhment in a ſtrange country, but unwilling to cement the foundations of their new ſtate with the blood of the natives. The wiſdom and moderation of the adventurers gain the affections of the native ſavages, and a ſenſe of mutual intereſt unites them both into one body. The chief of the new-comers paſſes in time for a being of godlike race, and his companions are too ſenſible of the utility of the deception, not to encourage the belief. All leaders of maritime expeditions, and indeed all rulers of nations dwelling near the ſea, were, in the oriental figura-

tive language of thoſe ages (whoſe moſt ſimple expreſſions are complete riddles for us), denominated Sons of the Ocean, of Neptune, or of ſome other marine Deity. Veſſels of a large ſize bore the name of ſome monſter of the deep, or formidable quadruped of the earth. Europa's Bull was a ſhip of the firſt magnitude; Phryxus's Ram was one of the ſecond rate; and we may preſume that the Dove, ſent by Jaſon to ſurvey the paſſage of the Dardanelles, was a light ſkiff, proper for diſcovery; the Dolphin on the coins of Tarentum, with the naked man ſitting upon its back, was perhaps ſtruck in remembrance of Taras and his ſhip. There ſeems to be very little reaſon for imagining that Arion is repreſented by the figure with a lyre in its hand. It was indeed on his paſſage from hence to Leſbos that he was thrown overboard, and taken up by a dolphin, or a ſhip of that name; but we cannot ſuppoſe that the Tarentines were very eager to perpetuate the memory of an event that redounded ſo little to their honour.

About a century before the ſiege of Troy, a colony of Cretans founded Uria, and obtruded themſelves upon the Tarentines, who, after a long conteſt, were obliged to admit them into their ſociety.

In the twenty-firſt Olympiad, ſo powerful a body of emigrants arrived under Phalanthus from Laconia, that it may almoſt be called a ſecond foundation. This general was marked, from the firſt moment of his exiſtence, for an outcaſt and an adventurer. He and all his followers were

the ſpurious iſſue of the Spartan women, whoſe huſbands, on marching againſt Meſſenæ, had made a vow not to return to their families till they had ſubdued their enemies. The war drawing out to a much greater length than they had imagined, theſe warriors began to be apprehenſive leſt the race of fighting citizens ſhould become extinct, on the failure of that generation. In order to preſerve their oath inviolate, and yet ſave the commonwealth from diſſolution, they ſent back all ſuch as had joined the army after the firſt campaign, to keep the women company. The offſpring of theſe temporary unions were called Parthenii; and, when grown up, were driven out to ſeek their fortunes in diſtant climes. Being received into Tarentum, they acquired a ſuperiority over the natives, new-modelled the government upon an ariſtocratical plan, enlarged the fortifications, and transformed the city into a mere copy of Sparta. The very places were new-named; and among others, the Galeſus took the name of Eurotas.

Moſt of the nobles having periſhed in a war with the Japyges, democracy was introduced. About the ſeventieth Olympiad, the Pythagorean philoſophy gained a footing at Tarentum, and worked wonders in poliſhing the manners, opening the underſtanding, and enlarging the ideas of this people, who were naturally diſpoſed to traffic, arts, and ſciences. The improvements of its trade was the grand object that engaged the attention of its legiſlators. They knew full well, that to the foſtering influence of commerce,

as much as to ſucceſs in military exploits, Egypt, Phœnicia, and Greece owed the very tranſcendent degree of glory and power which they had attained. Every nerve was therefore ſtrained to excite emulation in the citizens, to create a maritime force, to allure traders to the mart, and to render the city a centrical point of traffic for all parts of the mercantile world. The nature of its ſituation ſeconded their endeavours; for no place lay more conveniently for the trade of Italy, Illyricum, Greece, Aſia, and Africa, than Tarentum. We muſt conſider that, to moſt of the ancient mariners, the Mediterranean was an ocean; Spain, a Peru; Tyre, and ſome other ſtates on the ſea-coaſt, what Britain and Holland have been ſince, the great maritime powers: while Egypt and Perſia were the type of the preſent formidable inland monarchies. In all the long range of ſhore from Rhegium to Sipontum, Tarentum was the only port where veſſels fly for refuge in tempeſtuous weather. Brunduſium is not ſuppoſed to have exiſted at ſo early a period; and Croton was no better than a road where ſhips could not venture to lie in winter. Every department of the Tarentine government had an eye to commerce; and even its religious games and feaſts were inſtituted to encourage barter, and attract ſtrangers. In proceſs of time, when abuſes crept into the adminiſtration of affairs, and giddy pleaſure with unmeaning riot took the place of politic amuſement, it was remarked that the Tarentine calendar contained more feſtivals than there were days in the year.

The

The ſame thing may be ſaid of modern Rome, where no day paſſes without bringing with it the feaſt of a patron, anniverſary of the conſecration of a church, or removal of ſome relie, if not ſeveral the ſame day, excluſive of general proceſſions and ſolemnities. The different complexion of the two religions prevents the modern feaſts from degenerating into as much gaiety and intemperance as thoſe of Paganiſm.

With their wealth, the power of the Tarentines roſe above that of all the colonies of Magna Græcia; their land-forces were eſtimated at thirty-two thouſand foot and three thouſand horſe*, in conſtant pay; the number of citizens amounted to three hundred thouſand†, and thirteen conſiderable cities acknowledged their dominion; at ſea their fleets rode triumphant and unrivalled. The moſt brilliant epocha of their hiſtory was during the government of Archytas, whoſe profound learning as a philoſopher, and ſkill as a mechanician, were no clog upon his political abilities. His virtues were of the nobleſt kind, exalted to as great ſublimity of excellence as the plain morality of the the law of nature is capable of attaining. He is ſaid to have invented many uſeful inſtruments, and to have improved upon thoſe already known. He frequently led the Taren-

* The horſe and rider ſo frequent on the coins of this republic allude, perhaps, to the great dexterity of the Tarentines in horſemanſhip. They went to battle with two horſes to each cavalier, who, when one fell or grew fatigued, vaulted upon the other.

† The preſent city does not contain above eighteen thouſand ſouls.

tines

tines to battle, and always returned crowned with freſh laurels. To ſtrengthen the ſinews of the Grecian confederacy, he appointed general aſſemblies to be held at Heraclea, a dependence of Tarentum, where every thing relative to the common intereſt might be diſcuſſed and determined. He appears to have been murdered in ſome civil commotion, and his body thrown into the ſea.

With Archytas ended the true proſperity of his country. In the one hundredth Olympiad, luxury and corruption had gained ſuch power as to pervert all original good principles, both of morals and government; to enervate the minds and bodies of the citizens, and thereby to expoſe the republic, feeble and defenceleſs, to the inſults of the hardy Barbarians that ſurrounded it. The liberal arts did not flouriſh the worſe for this degeneracy; luxury and ſoftneſs of manners are as favourable to their advancement, as a rich mellow ſoil is to the vegetation of a beautiful flowering plant. Though the rude conquerors of the Tarentines have deprived us of the ſight of their admirable performances in painting, ſculpture, and architecture, we may ſtill form an idea of the exquiſiteneſs of their taſte by their coins *. The number of learned men born at Tarentum, or

* Nummi Tarentorum.

AUR. 1. Caput muliebre comptis capillis, delphines duo, TAPAΣ.=Puer nudus equo inſidens ſupra volitante victoria, delphin, ſydus ΣA.

2. Cap. puellæ cum monili E TAPANTINΩN.=Puer nudus delphinum inequitans extensâ dexterâ delphinum, lævâ tridentem tenens TAPAΣ.

3. Cap.

or educated in its ſchools, is a ſufficient proof of the eſteem in which ſcience and polite literature were held. Ariſtoxenus

3. Cap. imb. laureatum.=Aquila TAPANTIN.
4. Cap. imb. laur. delphin ΣA TAPAΣ.=Hercules cum leone decertans, arcus KN.
5. Cap. gal. NI.=Noctua apertis alis inſiſtens fulmini.
6. Cap. imb. pelle leoninâ tectum.=Juvenis nudus delph. ineq. dext. extensâ diotam, lævâ haſtam tenens TAPAΣ.
7. Cap. imb. tectum pelle leoninâ.=Bigæ aurigante Neptuno dext. habenas læ. tridentem. TAPANTINΩN.
8. Cap. Jovis barbat. laur. fulmen.=Aquila alis expanſis fulm. inſ. ante avem Pallas haſtâ minax TAPANTINΩN.
9. Cap. imb. laur. ΑΡ.=Aquila fulm. inſ. TAPANTINΩN AP.
10. Cap. Minervæ gal. TAPANTINΩN.=Victoria in curru à duob. delphinibus. trac. NIK.

ARG. 1. Mulier æquo inſ. ΦI-ΦIΛHMENOΣ.=Homo delp. inſ. d. tripodem. ſ. trid. cap. bovinum TAPAΣ.
2. Eques ΣΥ-ΛΥKINOΣ.=Homo delp. inſ. d. trid. l. pallium noctua TAPAΣ.
3. Cap. mul. diad.=Mulier equo inſ. TA cornucopiæ, delphin.
4. Cap. mul. diad.=mul. equo inſ. delphin. dimidium capræ TA.
5. Eques.=Homo nud. delp. inſ. TAPAΣ.
6. Eques.=Homo nud. del. inſ. facem tenens Σ.
7. Eques.=Homo delp. inſ. tridentem ten. ſubt. undæ K. TAP.
8. Eques tripus ΣAΛA ΣΩ.=Mulier colum. ten. delp. inſ. TAPAΣ.
9. Eques galeatus cum clypeo et haſta.=Mulier delp. inſ. velata d. botrum l. colum. TAPAΣ AMO.
10. Eques hominem calcans.=Homo ſupra delp. genu flexo nixus clyp. ten. TAPAΣ. NOΣ.
11. Duo equites, alter cum clava, alter cum lanceâ ΞENOΦIΛA.=Homo delp. inſ. cum clypeo d. victoriolam, l. duogacula IΩ.
12. Concha.=Homo delp. inſ. d. ſacculum l. tridentem TAPAΣ.
13. Cap. Palladis.=Hercules infans duos ſerpentes ſuffocans. TA.
14. Cap. mul.=Hercules leonem trucidans.
15. Cap. Jovis.=Delphin.
16. Eques, victoriâ equum ducente.=Homo delp. inſ.
17. Homo delp. inſ.=Equus marinus.

18. Cap.

nus is, I believe, the only author of whoſe works even a fragment has been preſerved. He was a philoſophical writer upon muſic, for which he ſeems to have felt extraordinary enthuſiaſm, as he aſſerts that the eſſence of the human ſoul is harmony.

SECTION XXXV.

ABOUT three hundred years before Chriſt, the Tarentine republic, conſcious of the effeminacy and incapacity of its own citizens, began to employ foreign generals and mercenary troops to fight its battles. Being hard preſſed by the Lucanians, the Tarentines called to their aid Alexander King of Epirus, who ſecured them againſt the enterprizes of thoſe barbarians at the expence of his own life. Fifty-ſeven years after his death, Pyrrhus, alſo King of Epirus, came over to defend them againſt the Romans. That ambitious people had levelled almoſt all the barriers that

18. Cap. Minervæ.=Noctua TAP.
19. Cap. Cereris TAPAΣ.=Eques haſtam vibrans.
20. Vir nudus equo inſ. cap. rad. haſt. vib. API.=Vir delp. inſ. d. vaſ. ſ. temonem. TAPAΣ. KA. EΠ.
21. Eques haſt. vib.=Vir delp. inſ. cum victoriola haſta et clypeo.
22. Eques victoriam calcans.=Vir delp. inſ. ΞOP.

ÆR. 1. Cap. Herculis.=Eques Λ. Γ.
2. Cap. mulieb.=Concha. delphin.
3. Cap. imb.=Delphin.
4. Figura delph. inſ. d. cor. l. cornuc.=Concha.
5. Caput. barb. diad. ☪.=Piſcis.

protected the ſoft Tarentine nation, and nothing was wanting but a tolerable pretext for commencing hoſtilities, which could not fail to add theſe rich coaſts to their other uſurpations. Rome had never ſhewn herſelf very ſcrupulous or nice in the choice of her reaſons for aſſaulting a neighbour; but, on the preſent occaſion, Tarentum furniſhed her with a cauſe of war, which, if we may truſt the very ſuſpicious teſtimony of the Latin hiſtorians, would be deemed ſufficiently weighty by the moſt rigid caſuiſt. A Roman fleet bringing corn from Apulia, and paſſing within ſight of Tarentum, was attacked by the inhabitants of that city, the ſhips deſtroyed, and the crews maſſacred. The ambaſſadors, ſent to demand ſatisfaction, were treated with the utmoſt indignity, and the reſentment of the Romans ſet at defiance. But if we pay proper attention to what we read in Livy and Dionyſius Halycarnaſſæus, we ſhall diſcover ſomething that may clear the Tarentines; I will not ſay of the guilt of miſbehaving to perſons uſually accounted ſacred, but at leaſt of having been wantonly the aggreſſors. By a treaty entered into ſome years before, the Romans had engaged not to navigate to the north of the Lacinian Cape, or interfere with the commerce of the Adriatic. A Roman conſul had rejected with ſcorn the mediation of the Tarantines in behalf of the Samnites; and the emiſſaries of Rome had fomented inſurrections among the ſubjects of Tarentum. Whichſoever of the parties might have juſtice on its ſide, it is but too obvious, that the weight of

power preponderated in favour of Rome; therefore the only reſource of her foe was to ſeek defenders wherever money could purchaſe them, ſince the degeneracy of the citizens of Tarentum had deprived them even of the idea of becoming ſoldiers themſelves. Pyrrhus, the firſt Grecian general of the age, was the perſon applied to. Allured by avaricious and ambitious motives, he landed in Italy, and defeated the Romans in two engagements; but finding the war likely to prove too heavy a burden for his ſhoulders, and his government irkſome to the people he came to fight for, he ſeized a frivolous pretence, and ſailed to Sicily, which he alſo abandoned for ſimilar reaſons. He returned to Tarentum; but being defeated by Curius Dentatus near Beneventum, ſtole away to Greece, and left his allies to make the beſt terms they could with the victor. The Tarentines, rouſed from their lethargy by deſpair and the approach of danger, continued for ſome time to make an obſtinate defence. They even perſuaded the Carthaginians to ſend a fleet to their ſuccour; but being at length obliged to yield to the ſuperior force of Rome, they experienced the mildeſt treatment at her hands, were ranked in the number of her allies, and ſuffered to govern themſelves by their own laws, under the control of a Roman garriſon.

We hear no more of the Tarentines till Hannibal penetrated into their country, and by the aſſiſtance of Philemenes ſurpriſed their city. Livius, the Roman Governor, remained in poſſeſſion of the citadel and entrance of the port,

by

by which means the Tarentine fleet was blocked up and rendered uſeleſs. But the active genius of the African general was not to be cramped by apparent difficulties. He cauſed the galleys to be brought aſhore, placed upon carriages and rollers, and thus drawn over the iſthmus, through the city, into the outer bay, where he aſtoniſhed the enemy with the appearance of a formidable fleet. This naval armament, under Democrates, defeated the Roman convoy off Croton.

It is a doubt among antiquaries which is the place where the ſhips were hauled over. The expreſſions of Polybius appear to indicate the hollow of the preſent ditch or cut made by Ferdinand the Firſt, as it anſwers to the ſpace between the wall and rampart erected by Hannibal, to prevent the Romans from ſallying out of the citadel upon the town. Gonſalvo de Cordova did the very ſame thing in the ſame place. A ſimilar expedient was practiſed by Dragut, a Turkiſh admiral, in eſcaping from the Genoeſe gallies of D'Oria, who had blocked him up in one of the bays of Greece.

The weakneſs and diſunited councils of Carthage having obliged Hannibal to evacuate Italy, his allies were left at the mercy of a republic not always prone to clemency. But, before the departure of the African chief, Fabius Maximus had retaken Tarentum by the treachery of the garriſon, and plundered it of an immenſe treaſure.

From this period Tarentum ceaſed to be known in the world as a ſtate of any political importance. The tide of commerce was inſenſibly averted into other channels, and its hiſtory, as well as its citizens, ſunk into an inglorious obſcurity; perhaps a happier ſituation than it had ever enjoyed during the moſt ſhining periods of its annals. It retained a great amenity of manners, the effect of Greek inſtitutions, mild climate, and fertile ſoil, where no very rough exertions were required to earn a ſubſiſtence, and where the very air ſeemed to breathe the ſoftneſs of its own character into the ſouls of all the inhabitants. From the deſcriptions and encomiums of Horace, we may judge how high an opinion the ancients had of its temperature.

A Roman colony was ſent hither; but this city appears to have returned very ſpeedily to the ſtate of a municipium, governed by its own laws and uſages, under the obligation of furniſhing to the Roman navy a certain quota of ſhips. The liberty it enjoyed muſt have been very ample; for it was looked upon in the light of a Greek city, where Roman exiles might reſide, as in a foreign country; a privilege it enjoyed in common with Naples.

In the Auguſtan age, it ſtill retained the Grecian manners and language; though, except Rhegium and Naples, all the reſt of Magna Græcia had loſt every trace of the features of its mother-country, utterly obliterated by an intercourſe with barbarians. In the fourth century after Chriſt, Tarentum yielded to the ſame baneful influence,

and

and the language of Homer ceaſed to be the vulgar tongue; but Greek no doubt gained a ſuperiority over Latin, during the tenth and eleventh ages, while Puglia obeyed the Emperors of the Eaſt. Its final baniſhment was the conſequence of the Norman conqueſt.

The deſtruction of Tarentum's independence appears to have cauſed an early emigration of its citizens. Their numbers were ſo reduced about the time of Auguſtus, that the greateſt part of the old incloſure was deſerted, and moſt of the inhabitants ſettled near the caſtle. Here they laid out their forum, in which they placed a coloſſal ſtatue of Jupiter, of a ſize inferior only to that of the Rhodian Apollo, and the only memorial left them of the ſplendour of their ancient commonwealth.

This ſituation near the citadel, was of particular advantage to the Tarentines, in ſecuring them from the inroads of the Goths, who, being deſtitute of a maritime force, could make no attack but on the land quarter.

After the death of Conſtans the Second, in 668, Romuald, Duke of Benevento, conquered this province; and the Greek Patrician, who had hitherto reſided at Tarentum, removed his tribunal to Reggio. On the decline of the Lombard power, the Grecian emperors recovered poſſeſſion of this country, and kept it till Robert Guiſcard drove them for ever out of Italy.

In the year 927, or in the preceding century (for the chronology of thoſe times is miſerably confuſed), the Sara-

cens or Hungarians deſtroyed the city of Tarentum; but its ſituation rendered it of too much conſequence not to be ſpeedily rebuilt. It was probably on this re-eſtabliſhment that the deſertion of the old ſite was completed. Nicephorus built the bridge, and made the Marina, for the purpoſe of ſecuring the entrance of the haven, and affording more ſpace for building within the walls.

Duke Robert, the Norman, after the total expulſion of the Greeks, created his ſon Bohemund Prince of Taranto; on the failure of whoſe iſſue, it was beſtowed on Henry, ſon of King Roger; and afterwards on William, a baſtard of that King. From him William the Firſt reſumed it, as being too great an appanage for an illegitimate branch of the royal family. It was part of the fortune of Manfred of Swabia, who long bore the title of Prince of Taranto. The principality was next conferred by Charles the Second upon his ſon Philip, titular Emperor of Conſtantinople, whoſe daughter, and at length ſole heireſs, carried it into the houſe of Baux. This family ſoon failed, and Raymund Orſini, a younger ſon of the Earl of Nola, obtained it. He had raiſed his fortune by his own adventurous valour; and, taking advantage of the circumſtances of the times, aſſumed an almoſt abſolute and independent ſway over the coaſt of Puglia. Upon his death, his ſon was ſtripped of all his poſſeſſions by King Ladiſlaus, who, by marrying Raymund's widow, made himſelf at length maſter of Taranto, the only place that ſtood out in defence of the infant proprietor.

Queen

Queen Joan the Second gave it to her huſband, the Earl of La Marche; but he, being in diſtreſs for money to carry him out of the kingdom, when he fled from his wife, ſold the principality to John Anthony Orſino Balzo, the right owner. This Prince, who was a very powerful Baron, made a great figure in the troubles that attended the firſt eſtabliſhment of the Aragonian Kings, and became almoſt an independent ſovereign. On his demiſe without iſſue, Taranto eſcheated to the Crown. Ferdinand the Firſt made it a proviſion for his ſecond ſon Frederick; after whoſe expulſion Taranto ceaſed to be feudal. It is now no longer even the ſhadow of that proud democratical republic, which dared to cope with Rome; nor is it the princely ſeat of a tyrannical feudatory. Poor and languiſhing, both as to trade and manufactures, it ſoothes its vanity with the conſciouſneſs of regal immunities, and immediate vaſſalage under the King.

The inhabitants neglect the culture of their fields, and turn all their attention to fiſhing; a profeſſion hampered with fewer incumbrances, leſs continual labour, and affording greater certainty of ſucceſs. Their lands are cultivated, their corn reaped, by Calabrians; their paſtures covered with Abruzzeſe ſheep and ſhepherds; while the modern Tarentines, as much at leaſt as their poverty will allow them, ſeem to copy the gentle, indolent manners of their forefathers, citizens of *Molle Tarentum*. They are ſtill paſſionately fond of amuſements, and eager only in the purſuit

purſuit of pleaſure. Their addreſs is affable, and pleaſing to ſtrangers; their pronunciation liſping, and ſofter than that of the natives of the neighbouring provinces. Here women bring forth children with little difficulty; and treat as a ſlight inconvenience thoſe dangers and pains, which are ſo dreadful to their ſex in moſt other countries. Here it is impoſſible to cite an inſtance of a perſon's dying in childbed.

JOURNEY

FROM

TARANTO TO REGGIO.

SECTION XXXVI.

ON the ſixth of May, I hired a guide, and proceeded on my journey towards Calabria. About four miles from Taranto we croſſed a river, ſuppoſed by ſome geographers to be the Taras. It runs through marſhes and thickets of tall reeds, is deep, and much reſorted to by wild boars, who in ſummer deſcend in droves to cool themſelves and wallow in the mud. If diſturbed, they ſwim acroſs; but ſoon return, unleſs it prove a very wet autumn, and then they retire up to the drier woods on the banks of the Bradano.

We rode all day along the ſea ſhore, between the beach and an immenſe foreſt of low pitch-pines; the underwood, juniper. At the mouth of the Lieto, the ſea runs a great way up into the land, and forms ſalt-ponds, which in ſummer exhale infectious vapours; in May, they were only beautiful objects in this wild and grand view of wood and water. The whole ſoil is ſandy, and bears evident marks of its having been lately recovered from the ſea, either by the voluntary receſſion of the watery element, or by the accumulation of earth hurried down in floods from the high lands. At the river Bradano * we left the province of Otranto, and entered that of Baſilicata. It was alſo the boundary of ancient Lucania, and indeed of Italy; for in very early times that name was confined to the country ſouth of this limit.

After a long but agreeable ride of twenty-four miles, we ſtopped at Torre di Mare, a poor place near a ruinous tower, built by the Angevine kings, as a ſafe-guard to the coaſt; but, by the retreat of the ſea, now at ſuch a diſtance from it, as no longer to ſerve that end. The waſte round it is fenny, damp, and unwholeſome. After dinner we ferried over the Baſiento †, whereon Octavius Cæſar and Mark Antony had an interview, brought about by the generous mediation of Octavia. Theſe triumvirs came with their troops to oppoſite banks of the river. Antony jumped

* Anciently Bradanus.

† Anciently the Metapontus, or Caſuentum.

into

into a boat, and puſhed off unattended towards the other ſide; but Cæſar met him, in another ſkiff, half-way, and, after mutual endeavours to ſhew exceſſive confidence in each other, Antony was perſuaded to give up the point, and ſuffer Cæſar to accompany him to Tarentum, where they were to agree upon a plan for ſettling the Roman empire*.

Near the mouth of this river, ſome columns, riſing out of the ſandy hillocks, mark the ſituation of Metapontum. Theſe pillars of coarſe marble ſtand in two rows, which are about eighty feet aſunder, ten in one row, and five in the other; their diameter five feet, their height fifteen, the interſtices ten. Part of the architrave is all that remains of the entablature. They are of the ancient Doric order, tapering regularly with a large cyathiform capital†, and no baſe but a kind of plinth that belongs to the whole row. They are channelled into twenty ſharp deep flutes, now much corroded by the ſalt ſpray, and the action of the air.

This ſtyle of architecture has ſomething in it ſolemn and majeſtic, adapted to the dignity of divine worſhip, or the gravity of an aſſembly of ſenators. Were I to build a city,

* Alberti places this meeting on the Bradano; Joan. Juvenis, on the Tara. But, as Appian expreſsly ſays it was on the river of Metapontum, it can be no other than the Baſiento.

† I cannot convey to the reader a clearer idea of the ſhape of this cup-form capital (which is to be ſeen at Pæſtum, Segeſta, Selinunte, Syracuſe, Girgenti, and St. Peter ad vincula in Rome), than by comparing it to a ſhallow bowl, covered with a thin ſquare ſtone.

I ſhould appropriate this noble order to the great churches, town-hall, and exchange, whilſt I embelliſhed the palaces and theatres with the gay Corinthian. I do not allow the ſame auguſt appearance to the modern Doric, which is much lighter, and more properly enriched with ornaments.

Theſe are all the veſtiges of Metapontum, a city once admirably calculated by ſituation for attaining the ſpecies of proſperity that ſeems to have been the end conſtantly propoſed by its citizens, viz. opulence ariſing from agriculture and exportation of corn. It ſtood on the ſkirts of a plain twenty-five miles in length, which, two thouſand years ago (when Metapontum was in the zenith of its reſpectable, becauſe moſt innocent, glory), was well peopled, full of towns and villages, attentively cultivated and fertilized, not deſolated by the waters, as they were then confined to proper channels. The rich crops that waved upon its ſurface, were the baſis on which this colony of Pylians grounded their power and importance. The honour they attached to the profeſſion of huſbandman, and the fruitfulneſs of their territory, are atteſted by their coins*, marked with

* Nummi Metapontorum.

AUR. 1. Cap mulieb. ſpicis redim. = Spica figura virilis META.
2. Cap. Martis ΥΘ. = Duæ ſpicæ, apis META.
3. Noctua ramo inſ. = Spica & caduc. META.

ARG. 1. Hercules nud. ſtans clav. ger. = Spica META.
2. Cap. Martis, canis ΛΕΥΚΙΠΠΟΣ. = Spica avis—META.
3. Homo nud. bovino capite d. pateram—s. Arundinem. = Spica—cicada META.
4. Cap. mul. ſpic. redim. = Spica forceps ΛΟΑ—META.
5. Spica

with the head of Ceres and an ear of corn, and by the magnificent offering which they made at the ſhrine of the Delphic Apollo. This preſent conſiſted of an emblematical repreſentation of Summer in maſſive gold, and was eſteemed one of the richeſt offerings in the temple.

Pythagoras ſpent the laſt years of his life at Metapontum. After his deceaſe, the houſe he had dwelt in was converted into a temple of Ceres, and reſorted to with the greateſt veneration by the Metapontines, who were truly ſenſible of the advantages they had derived from his inſtructions *.

This philoſopher was one of the moſt exalted characters of antiquity; one of the few ſages who did not confine their

5. Spica—META. = Incuſſus.
6. Cap. Palladis. = Spica, clava Æ.
7. Cap. Jovis Ammonis. = Spica tripus ME.
8. Cap. mulieb. diadem. = Spica META.
9. Cap. bovinum. = Spica META.
10. Cap. Martis ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΔΩΝ. = Duæ ſpicæ, apis META.
11. Cap. Cereris. = Spica—Ciconia ΜΕΤΑΠΟ.
12. Galea. = Circulus int. duæ tædæ META—radii ex granis hordeac.
13. Noctua ramo inf. Σ. = Spica, caduc. MET.

ÆR. 1. Cap. Pallad. = Spica. ΜΕΤΑΠΟΝΤ.
2. Tripus luna. gran. hord. = Spica META.
3. Cap. imb. cornut. = Spica MET.
4. Cap. Jovis. = Spica META.
5. Cap. Apoll. = Spica META.
6. Cap. Cereris = Spica META.
7. Aquila fulm. inf. = Spica META.
8. Cap. Cereris. = Duæ ſpicæ META.
9. Cap. Minervæ. = Duæ ſpicæ META.
10. Cap. Mercur. alat. = 3 gr. hord. caduc. META.

* Some authors write that he died, and that the temple was dedicated at Croton.

views to private and partial objects, but made their learning of uſe to nations at large, whom they inſtructed, enlightened and directed in the paths of moral virtue and real glory. Many ridiculous ſtories are related of his opinions and doctrines, which give us the idea of a viſionary or impoſtor; but we ſhould be cautious how we admit implicity anecdotes reſpecting the great men of diſtant ages, when we find them claſh with what is allowed to have been their general line of conduct. Perhaps Pythagoras found it neceſſary, in order to captivate the veneration and confidence of a credulous ſuperſtitious people, that he ſhould propagate ſtrange and marvellous figments, and thereby allure them to liſten attentively to the leſſons, and obey the injunctions of a lawgiver. He was the legiſlator, the reformer of Magna Græcia. To him and his diſciples the little ſtates that compoſed it owe a celebrity which they were not entitled to from extent of dominion or conqueſts. Their ruin may be attributed to the neglect of his precepts; or, indeed, in ſome ſhape to the very great ſucceſs attending his inſtitutions, which raiſed thoſe republics to ſuch an uncommon pitch of proſperity, as intoxicated and finally corrupted their citizens.

The Metapontines were warm partiſans of Hannibal, who, during many winters, made this city his head-quarters. On the retreat of the Carthaginians, it was puniſhed by the Romans for that attachment with the loſs of its liberty. We are informed by Strabo, that this little commonwealth

of farmers was deſtroyed by the Samnites. It remained in ruins, becauſe it could no longer hold out the ſweets of freedom, or the advantages of trade to entice inhabitants back to its deſolated walls; and the want of cultivators ſpeedily converted its once happy plains into a dreary deſert. At this day there cannot be a more melancholy ſight, or one more mortifying to the pride of man, than this wide-ſtretched tract of land, almoſt without an inhabitant; ſcarce diſturbed in any part by the plough, full of brown marſhes and ſtagnated pools: noiſome fogs and poiſonous vapours hang over them, and when ſet in motion by the power of the ſun, carry diſeaſe and death into the blood of the wretches doomed to breathe their venomous atmoſphere. Inſtead of a navigable river, in whoſe deep and capacious boſom whole fleets might moor with ſafety, the Baſiento now has the appearance of a ſtraggling torrent, impeded by ſand-banks that ſhift at every ſhower, and drive the waters back over half the plain, where they putrify*.

I ſlept a few off miles to the weſt at a farm-houſe, where my friends of Taranto had previouſly ſecured a comfortable lodging for me.

* When the ſhepherds are obliged to paſs the night in the open air during the bad ſeaſon, their method of guarding againſt the infection is as follows: A fire is lighted, on which they put a large pot of milk. As ſoon as it boils, they ſup up the hot liquor; cuſtom having ſufficiently hardened their throats and ſtomachs. This throws them into a profuſe ſweat; they then cover their heads with warm woollen caps, and lie down to ſleep with their feet cloſe to the fire.

SECTION XXXVII.

THE next day we travelled eleven miles in the plain, all one wild paſture; ferried over the Agri*, once a navigable river, now a rapid irregular torrent, and baited at Policoro, a very conſiderable farm lately belonging to the Jeſuits, at preſent in the hands of the Crown. I believe theſe poſſeſſions do not yield to his Sicilian Majeſty ſo great a revenue as they did to that intelligent ſociety. Thoſe fathers had a noble eſtate here, bounded by the ſea, the rivers Agri and Sinno †; and the mountains, containing all kinds of land, paſture, wood, arable and ſalt-marſh. The buildings that were raiſed to contain the produce of ſo large a farm, to houſe the numerous herds and flocks, and to lodge the ſtewards and ſervants requiſite for the conducting of ſuch an eſtabliſhment, are all laid out upon the great ſcale that marked every undertaking of that politic congregation. Not many years before the diſſolution of their order, they had a ſtock of five thouſand ſheep, three hundred cows and oxen, four hundred buffaloes, four hundred goats, and two hundred horſes, under the care of three hundred ſervants. At preſent things wear a different aſpect, and ſeem verging to ruin rather than advancing towards greater perfection. During the hot ſeaſon, when the air is

* Anciently, Aciris. † Anciently, Siris.

all

all on fire and very feveriſh, the Jeſuits were wont to retire into the mountains to Latronico, another of their eſtates.

At the wood near the banks of the Agri, and about three miles from the ſea, are ſome heaps of rubbiſh, that fix the ſituation of Heraclea *. And according to the moſt probable conjectures, near the mouth of the Sinno was Siris, the port of that city. At preſent there is nothing but an open road, where ſhips may lie to take in a cargo of corn and other commodities, of which liquorice is one, a root that grows wild in great quantities along theſe ſwamps †, allowing for

* Nummi Heracleæ.

AUR. 1. Cap. Palladis.=Hercules leon. ſtrangul. ΙΦ. ΗΡΑ.
2. Cap. Palladis.=Hercules clava leon. feriens ΗΡΑΚΛΗΙΩΝ.
3. Cap. Muli. delph. ΣΑ.=Fig. vir. nud. delph. inſ. d. avem. ſ. trident. ⊦Η. ſubtus undæ.

ARG. 1. Cap. Palladis cum monſt. mar. in galea.=Hercules nud. ſtans d. clavam ſ. arcum & ſpol. leon. ΗΡΑΚΛΗΙΩΝ.
2. Cap. Palladis.=Hercules leon. ſtrang. clava. noctua ſup. hum. leonis ⊦ΗΡΑΚΛΗ.
3. Cap. Palladis.=Noctua ramo inſ. ΗΡΑΚΛΗΙ.
4. Cap. Pallad.=Hercules nud. ſtans clav. nixus ſpol. leon. tectus ΠΜ ΦΙΛΩ ⊦ΗΡΑΚ.
5. Homo nudus delp. inequ. d. diotam. ſ. trident. ſub. undæ ⊦ΗΡ.=Eques nudus ſupervolitante victor. ΣΥ.
6. Cap. Herculis.=Leo gradiens ΗΕ.
7. Cap. leonis.=Pharetra ⊦ΗΡΑ.

ÆR. 1. Cap. imb. laur. ſtella.=Clava pharetra. Arcus ⊦Η.
2. Cap. Pall. laur. & gal.=Hercules ſtans d. pat. ſ. clav. ⊦ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΩΝ.
3. Cap. Herculis=Clava pharetra ⊦ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΩΝ.
4. Cap. gal.=Trophæum ⊦ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΩΝ.

† The ſale of this root is ſaid to produce 700*l.* a-year to the Duke of Corigliano.

all the alterations that ſo many revolving ages may have made in this abandoned ſhore, it is a great matter of doubt with me, whether there ever was any good harbour here; or, even in the Agri, a much larger river, becauſe the ſhape and expoſure of the coaſt reprobates that idea; eſpecially as all ancient authors agree, that no bay between Rhegium and Tarentum was tenable after the autumnal equinox. It is therefore more than probable that ſhips of burden ſeldom anchored in this place.

Siris * was a very ancient city, founded by Trojans, and renowned for its college of prieſts ſkilled in cabaliſtic lore. It became a dependance of Heraclea, to which the principal inhabitants of Siris were obliged to remove. Heraclea was the point of rendezvous agreed upon by the whole Greek confederacy, where their general intereſts and diſputes were to be ſettled. Upon its medals, many of which I purchaſed of the peaſants, is the figure of Hercules tearing open the jaws of the Nemæan lion. It is probable that Zeuxis, one of the moſt celebrated painters of antiquity, was a native of this place rather than of any other Heraclea, as his moſt capital performances were placed in the cities of Magna Græcia. The banks of the Sinno are famous in Roman hiſtory for the victory gained by Pyrrhus over the Conſul Levinus, in the

* Nummi Sirinorum.

ÆR. 1. Prora navis ϹΕΙΡΙΖ.=Vas folium pamp. ΚΟΤΝ.
2. Cap. Mercurii petaſatum. ΑΑ.=Aquila. corona ΣΕΙΡΙ.
3. Cap. Mercurii pet. ϹΕΙ.=Vas.

year of Rome 473. This was the firſt encounter the Epirote had with the Romans. He purchaſed the honour of the day at the expence of the flower of his army, and thereby became ſenſible of the difficulties that awaited the proſecution of his enterprize. He was indebted for his ſucceſs to his own perſonal intrepidity, and to the panic which the firſt ſight of elephants ſtruck into the legions.

The neighbouring hills are compoſed of calcareous tophus, replete with ſhells incruſted over, or petrified. Whole ſkeletons of the larger tribe of quadrupeds have been dug out of theſe ſtony ſtrata. At Rocca Imperiale, or near it, was the town of Lagaria, a colony of the Phoceans, noted in antiquity for a ſweet and ſoft wine much eſteemed by phyſicians as a cordial.

At Monte Giordano we entered the Upper or Hither Calabria. The inn wearing the face of dirt and poverty, I rode four miles farther to Roſeto, where my guide aſſured me he had an acquaintance that would be happy to accommodate me with a room. The high lands approach very near to the ſea, and are tolerably cultivated: much of the land ſown with cotton.

At Roſeto, which is but a poor place, I was very hoſpitably received by a prieſt. The old man plied me with many queſtions concerning Naples, England, and America; and, in return for my readineſs in gratifying his curioſity, entered with great good ſenſe into a detail of the manners and cuſtoms of his own country, and informed me of many

particulars I was an entire ſtranger to. I learned from him, that population is daily decreaſing within the circle of his knowledge, from many cauſes ariſing out of the general government of the kingdom, of which he acknowledged himſelf an incompetent judge; and alſo, from many others that were within his ſphere, and were daily felt by him. He attributed, but methinks without ſufficient grounds, this progreſs of depopulation to the cuſtom followed by the Calabrians, of never marrying beyond the limits of their own townſhip, which he thought perpetuated defects and diſorders among them, and from a want of proper croſſes in the breed, ended in barrenneſs and the extinction of families. By theſe means all the peaſants of a village are nearly related. The marriage-portion of a girl depends upon the wealth and numbers of the family, and generally conſiſts of a piece of vineyard, or a ſingle fruit-tree, among which the mulberry holds the firſt rank for honour and profit.

The common mode of letting farms of baronial or eccleſiaſtical eſtates throughout Calabria, is by a leaſe of two years, with many clauſes and reſtrictions. Proprietors of land of plebeian rank extend the term to ſix years, and allow the tenant the liberty of cutting a ſtipulated quantity of wood, on condition of his fencing off an equal portion to ſpring up again.

The Barons are in general very far from conſidering themſelves as the protectors, the political fathers of their vaſſals, but encroach ſo much on the commons and the cultivated

cultivated grounds, for the ſake of extending their chace, that the peaſants have neither room nor opportunity to raiſe ſufficient food for their ſupport; they therefore fly to the mendicant and other orders of friars, and take the religious habit to procure a ſubſiſtence. The father of a family, when preſſed for the payment of taxes, and ſinking beneath the load of hunger and diſtreſs, *va alla montagna*, that is, retires to the woods, where he meets with fellow-ſufferers, turns ſmuggler, and becomes by degrees an outlaw, a robber, and an aſſaſſin.

However, matters are not yet in ſo deſperate a ſituation, as to preclude all poſſibility of reſtoring theſe provinces to a ſtate of opulence and populouſneſs. If government were more attentive to the general good than particular intereſts; if juſtice were adminiſtered with more honeſty and impartiality by the ſuperior magiſtrates, and leſs rapaciouſneſs by the ſubalterns; if taxes were more equally and judiciouſly impoſed, and more tenderly exacted; if the aggrieved peaſant had a refuge to fly to in the day of oppreſſion, theſe fertile countries might emerge from their preſent ſtate of deſolation, and rich flouriſhing towns might again riſe along the now deſerted ſhores. The women are endowed by nature with ſufficient fecundity, and bring forth their offspring almoſt without a groan. It is a common thing for a woman, far gone with child, to go up to the foreſt for fuel, and to be there ſurpriſed with the pains of childbirth, perhaps haſtened by her toil: She is nowiſe diſmayed at the

ſolitude

ſolitude all around her, or the diſtance from home, but delivers herſelf of the infant, which ſhe folds up in her apron, and, after a little reſt, carries to her cottage. It is a proverb much in uſe in the neighbouring provinces, *Che una ſerva Calabreſe piu ama far un figlio che un bucato, i. e.* "A Calabrian maid-ſervant prefers the labour of childbirth "to that of a waſh."

The Calabrians have ſome very capricious notions deeply rooted in their minds. One is, that every child, whoſe mother has been true to her marriage vow, muſt neceſſarily reſemble the father. It is no doubt an eaſy matter to perſuade a peaſant, who ſeldom conſiders the lineaments of his face in a glaſs, that the features of the infant are miniature copies of his; but if he were to become thoroughly convinced that no ſuch reſemblance exiſted, he would never be perſuaded to pardon his wife, or look upon the child in any other light than that of a baſtard.

It is thought a reproach to have been ſuckled by any but one's own mother. This caſe ſeldom happens, for the women recover with ſo much eaſe after lying-in, that few children are expoſed to the neceſſity of ſucking a ſtrange breaſt.

They repoſe great confidence in judgments, and expect to ſee every perſon that jeers at another's defects, afflicted with the ſame; but have a milder idea of the penalty attending paſſionate oaths and haſty curſes: if the party offending repent, they ſuppoſe all danger is blown over.

Inocu-

Inoculation has been attempted in one place only, near Reggio; but from ill ſucceſs in ſome inſtances, and the ſuperſtitious averſion of the vulgar, thoſe who have undergone the operation are held in utter contempt, and marked by ſome opprobrious nickname.

If a perſon dies in the fields by a violent or accidental death, it is believed that his ſpirit will appear in the ſame place in white robes, and that the only way of laying it, is to ſend out young boys to approach ſilently, and cover it with a volley of ſtones. Not long ago a Dominican prieſt, ſitting in his white garment on a hill near Tropea, employed in taking a ſketch of the country, was miſtaken for the ghoſt of an old mad woman who had dropt down dead ſome time before on that identical ſpot. The apparition brought out the youths of the neighbouring village, and the friar had his brains almoſt knocked out before he could convince the little exorciſts of their error *.

SECTION XXXVIII.

THE territory of Roſeto produces olives, capers, corn, ſaffron, and cotton. Good wine is ſaid to be made on the hills to the weſt, but my hoſt was not able to procure me any that was palatable. He told me that the

* All theſe particulars have been ſince confirmed to me by perſons whom I know to be well acquainted with the ſtate and manners of the country.

mountains

mountains abounded with very fine oak timber fit for ſhip-building, and that the woods were well ſtocked with game, which is a great annoyance to the farmers, whatever diverſion it may afford the landlord.

By the Roman law, every perſon was at liberty to fiſh and hunt on the lands of another, unleſs formally prohibited by the owner; and, according to the Lombard inſtitutions, no penalty was incurred by treſpaſs without proof of damage. In the kingdom of Naples, the Emperor Frederick ſeems to be the firſt that forbade nets and ſnares, except when employed againſt bears, wolves, and other noxious animals. His paſſion for the chaſe dictated this law, which has been revived by many of his ſucceſſors. It is a doubt among the Neapolitan lawyers, what right the Barons have to an excluſive chaſe in their manors, where they cannot ſhew a preciſe grant in their inveſtiture, or plead immemorial poſſeſſion; and it has been the practice of the courts to diſcountenance their pretenſions: much depends upon local cuſtom. The uſe of guns is contrary to law, which the crown diſpenſes with at a regular price. A licence for fowling in the plains of Naples with bird-calls coſts ten carlines a year; in the plains and woods, twenty-four; and ſixty, with nets, in theſe and in the high lands. At a diſtance from the capital, it is only five; but the ſportſman is not allowed either calls or nets, nor to enter incloſures and reſerved baronial chaſes, if walled in. Overtures have been made to adminiſtration by ſeveral under-

undertenants for the purchaſe of a general leave of ſhooting; but a difference in the price has prevented an agreement. The Cacciator Maggiore of the realm being a great Baron, we cannot be ſurpriſed if he coincide in ſentiment with his fellow-nobles, and, in an ariſtocratical monarchy, be deſirous of extending all reſtrictive laws; ſince we behold, in our land of liberal ideas and boaſted freedom, the country gentlemen eagerly bent upon curtailing the privileges, and thwarting the inclinations, of the inferior claſs of citizens.

Calabria is too hilly to admit of hunting; all game is brought down by the gun, or taken in the net. The beſt kind of ſpaniel is the *Bracca focata*, a ſtrong dog of a black or deep brown colour, with a tawny belly, and ſpots over the eyes. It is ſo excellent, that the king has taken particular pains to increaſe the breed.

The lower parts of the mountains abound with the Ornus, or ſmall-leaved flowering manna aſh, which grows ſpontaneouſly and without any culture, except that the woodmen cut down all the ſtrong ſtems that grow above the thickneſs of a man's leg. Towards the end of July, the gatherers of manna make an horizontal gaſh, inclining upwards, in the bole of the tree. As the liquor never oozes out the firſt day, another cut is given on the ſecond, and then the woodman fixes the ſtalk of a maple leaf in the upper wound, and the end of the leaf in the lower one, ſo as to form a cup to receive the gum as it extils from each ſlaſh.

The old man told me, that vipers and martens were remarkably fond of manna. He had himſelf frequently ſeen the little quadruped at the tree; but never the reptile, though many of his acquaintance had.—The tyranny exerciſed over the peaſants, on account of this native production of their wilderneſſes, ſtands in the foremoſt line of their numberleſs and abominable grievances. All manna belongs to the King, who gives it in farm to a ſet of contractors. To gather it, a certain number of countrymen are furniſhed by the feudatory, who receives five carlini for every man. During the ſeaſon, which continues about a month, theſe fellows are not allowed to abſent themſelves a ſingle day, or undertake the leaſt work of any other kind, however indiſpenſable for the preſervation of their own little private harveſt. Their ſcanty wages are a poor compenſation for this involuntary ſervice. Their greedy employers give them only three carlines * for every rotolo of manna; which quantity, containing thirty-three ounces and a third, is ſold for twenty-four carlini and three quarters: if it be in tubular pieces, the price riſes one-third. The peaſants are puniſhed with the utmoſt ſeverity, if detected in burning, deſtroying, or damaging any of theſe trees, that cauſe to them ſo much vexation; and are ſent to priſon, if the ſmalleſt quantity of the juice be found in their houſes. They may eat as much as they pleaſe in the woods; and moſt of them take this phyſic once a year.

* In the Salernitan diſtrict, they pay the gatherers five carlini a rotolo.

Some

Some time ago eight hundred poor labourers of the province of Salerno, no longer able to ſupport this oppreſſive taſk, clubbed two carlini a-piece, and bribed a perſon of the court to preſent a memorial from them to the King, at Perſano; but, whether their agent deceived them, or the petition ſhared the fate of ſo many other petitions in all kingdoms, no manner of notice was taken of it; and their ſlaviſh work returns every year, without any proſpect of abolition or remittance. Indeed, throughout the realm, the ſituation of the huſbandmen is truly deplorable; every thing is exciſed, and the modes of collecting, wantonly cruel and pernicious. All live animals in Calabria are taxed. Six carlini are paid for an ox, four grains for a ſheep; it is therefore no wonder if the graziers be in indigence, if the cottagers keep no beaſt of any kind, and live upon caſual and unſubſtantial nutriment, inſtead of milk, cheeſe, and other wholeſome diet, which the rich paſturage of the country ought to afford them in as great abundance as that which the Flemings enjoy in their fat ſoil.

Arable land here is ploughed four times: the firſt in May. But the labour is in general remiſsly and languidly performed; and, inſtead of laying down their fallows with hay-ſeeds, clover, or any of thoſe rich artificial graſſes which are ſown in England to create fine meadows and paſtures, the Calabrian farmer thinks he does his farm ample juſtice, if he ceaſes to plough it for two or three years, and leaves the good graſs, accidentally produced there, to

make its way, as well as it can, through the matted fibres of all manner of rank weeds. There is nothing to encourage the countryman to make any vigorous exertions, or try improvements in agriculture; which require both greater capital and courage than he is poſſeſſed of. He can foreſee no amelioration in his ſituation of life, from any efforts he can make: and woful experience has perhaps taught him to apprehend, that an increaſe of activity and produce would only draw on his ſhoulders an additional weight of taxes and oppreſſion.

I roſe before day, that I might have leiſure to examine the ſite of Sibaris, and reach Corigliano before ſupper; as there was no tolerable lodging to be expected ſhort of that place.

We rode paſt Trebiſaccio, a very ill-built town, on a hill, and within ſight of ſome others of no conſequence, ſituated on the right hand, upon little eminences prettily planted with olive and almond trees. One of them is called Amendolara, from the abundance of almonds; and is remarkable for being the birth-place of Pomponius Lætus, a celebrated critic and hiſtorian of the fifteenth century. The component parts of theſe hills are a calcareous tophus, with ſea-ſhells, and other foſſile ſubſtances. The plains along the ſhore are very boggy, and interſected by a great number of ſmall rivulets, one of which is ſtrongly impregnated with ſulphur, and, as I was told, flows from ſome baths among the hills. The drier ſpots produce very rich

crops

crops of corn. Near the banks of the Racanello, we met great droves of buffaloes, belonging to the Ducheſs of Caſſano: I think the number of beaſts exceeded a thouſand. Theſe rank, wet paſtures are very proper for the breeding of this ſpecies of horned cattle, which are of a heavy yet laborious diſpoſition, and delight in marſhes. During the broiling heats of ſummer, they lay themſelves down in the water, and leaving only the end of their noſes above the ſurface, defy the aſſaults of the myriads of inſects that ſwarm in theſe low grounds. We repoſed, during the middle of the day, on the ſtraw of the great barn. Caſſano, a fief of the Serra Aragona family, is an epiſcopal city, about twelve miles from the ſea: it has mineral waters, ſulphureous baths, and a very fruitful territory.

After dinner we croſſed the river Sybaris, now the Coſcile, and entered the peninſula formed by that river and the Crathis, where a few degraded fragments of aqueducts and tombs indicate the ſpot on which ſtood the city of Sybaris, noted to a proverb in ancient hiſtory for the luxury and effeminacy of its inhabitants.

No poſition could have been more judiciouſly choſen for commerce or agriculture, as long as an extenſive population and induſtry kept the rivers under controul. Irrigation is, in ſo dry a climate, the life of huſbandry; but unleſs ſtrong quays and embankments confine the waters to their due courſe, and prevent their coming down upon the country at improper ſeaſons and in ſuperabundant quantities, ruin and

peſtilence, inſtead of riches and health, are the neceſſary conſequences. Attention to the management of theſe two large ſtreams enſured fertility to the lands, and deep, ſafe channels for trading fleets. Many ages, alas! have now revolved, ſince Man inhabited theſe plains in ſufficient numbers to ſecure ſalubrity. The rivers have long rolled lawleſs and unreſtrained over theſe low deſolate fields, leaving, as they ſhrink back to their beds, black pools and ſtinking ſwamps to poiſon the whole region, and drive mankind ſtill farther from its ancient poſſeſſions. Nothing in reality remains of Sybaris, which once gave law to four nations, reckoned twenty-five cities among its ſubjects, and could muſter three hundred thouſand fighting men. I do not think any remnants, now to be ſeen, date ſo far back as the old Sybaritan republic *.

Sybaris was one of the moſt ancient of the ſettlements formed by the Greeks on the Italian ſhore. The natural richneſs of its ſoil encouraged agriculture, which produced abundance of articles of commerce; and the convenience of the ſituation, between two conſiderable rivers, naturally led to a great exportation.—From theſe ſources wealth flowed copiouſly into the ſtate, and with it brought ſuch luxury and degeneracy of manners, as have excited the aſtoniſhment and indignation of all ancient writers. Many anecdotes are

* The materials of the ruins being brick, argue Roman rather than Grecian workmanſhip. I never met with bricks, in any undoubted Greek ruin, throughout Magna Græcia or Sicily.

told

told us of the ſoft Sybarites; ſome ſcarcely credible, and all tending to ſhew how much that people ſacrificed every conſideration to the enjoyment of the preſent moment, and how eaſy a conqueſt they afforded their more needy and warlike neighbours. But Sybaris, before its hour of misfortune, had numbered many of glory and dominion. It had founded the city of Pæſtum on the Tyrrhene ſea; its armies had been numerous and formidable; its authority reſpected over a large range of country; and the wiſdom of its councils admired by the ſurrounding nations. The walls of the capital incloſed a ſpace of ſix miles and a half, and its ſuburbs extended near ſeven miles along the Crathis. What a noble ſight! what beauties this country muſt have diſplayed, when the impetuous torrents were kept under command, and only let off cautiouſly and regularly, to convey freſhneſs and fertility to the well-tilled thirſty fields!—when the banks of the river were adorned with warehouſes, wherein the merchant depoſited his riches; and with elegant villas, and perfumed gardens, whither he retired to enjoy the fruits of his induſtry!—when its ſpacious plains teemed with harveſts, that, according to the teſtimony of Varro, repaid the huſbandman an hundred fold, and annually loaded large fleets of veſſels that crowded the mouths of its rivers!

After retracing all theſe circumſtances in my mind, I looked round me, and could not help thinking myſelf in a dream, or that the hiſtorians muſt have been dreaming when

when they wrote of Sybaris. Seventy days, as Strabo ſays, ſufficed to deſtroy all this grandeur and proſperity. Five hundred and ſeventy-two years before the Chriſtian æra, the Crotoniates, under their famous Athleta Milo, defeated the Sybarites in a pitched battle, broke down the dams that kept out the Crathis, and let the furious ſtream into the town, where it ſoon overturned and ſwept away every building of uſe or ornament. The inhabitants were maſſacred without mercy; and the few that eſcaped the ſlaughter, and attempted to reſtore their city, were cut to pieces by a colony of Athenians, who afterwards removed to ſome diſtance, and founded Thurium *. The coins of Sybaris are among the moſt ancient known; being of the ſort called *Incuſi*, i. e. convex on one ſide, and concave on the reverſe. They bear a Bull, which I take to be an emblem of their ſubdued river, ſo long their friend and purveyor, but in the end an inſtrument of their deſtruction. The great works undertaken to drive back its waters, are probably expreſſed by the head of the animal being turned back on its ſhoulder †.

* Modern authors place it at Terra Nova, four miles up the river; but Livy ſays expreſsly it was on the ſea-ſhore.

† Nummi Sybaritarum.

ARG. 1. Taurus ſtans retroflexo capite ΥM = Altera pars incuſſa.
2. Cap. Palladis = Taurus ΣΥΒΑ.
3. Taurus = Vas incuſſum.
4. Taurus = Quatuor Glob. MΥ.

ÆR. 1. Taurus cap. reflexo ΥM = Incuſſus.

I have

I have often wondered why the moſt outrageous barbarians, the moſt blood-thirſty conquerors, have found more favour at the hands both of their cotemporaries and of poſterity, than the ſoft indolent Sybarites, who ſeem to have done harm to nobody, and whoſe faults originated in the affluent ſtate of their affairs, and the mild temperature of their climate, rather than in any miſchievous bent of character. I ſuſpect this virulence of abuſe ſprang, from the deſire their enemies, and the partiſans of thoſe enemies, had, of giving a plauſible excuſe for the cruelty with which the Sybarites were treated; perhaps alſo from a ſpirit of envy at their enjoyments; or from the common character, of philoſophical declamations. Theſe being the production of a ſet of men of great poverty, ſour tempers, auſtere morals, and much polemical iraſcibility, were more frequently employed to laſh the indulging voluptuary, than the bloody tyrant or ferocious raviſher; eſpecially as there was more danger in an attack upon the latter. Were the caſe otherwiſe, how ſhould we account for their ſpleen againſt theſe Epicures? for what compariſon is there between the culpability of a wealthy citizen, revelling in love and wine, pampered up with high ſeaſoned viands and delicious liquors, repoſing in eaſy carriages and beds of down; and the guilt of an exterminating conqueror, who embrues his hands in the blood of thoſe half-ſlumbering debauchees, that he may poſſeſs himſelf of their ſpoils,

and perhaps, in time, add their vices to his own native cruelty? Hiſtorians, and orators of all ages, have been guilty of this partiality. For my part, I cannot help feeling a degree of pity for the hard fate of the Sybarites, to whom we are indebted for the diſcovery of many moſt uſeful pieces of chamber and kitchen furniture. They appear to have been a people of great taſte, and to have ſet the faſhion, in point of dreſs, throughout Greece. Their cooks, embroiderers, and confectioners were famous over all the polite world; and we may ſuppoſe their riding-maſters did not enjoy a leſs brilliant reputation, ſince we are told of their having taught their horſes to dance to a particular tune. Alexis of Sybaris paſſes for being the inventor of fables or dialogues, in which the ſpeakers are all rational beings;—the prototype of the Drama: whereas Æſop and others had put their morality into the mouths of animals only.

After the deſtruction of Sybaris, Thurium became a conſiderable ſtate under the diſcipline of Charondas, who died a martyr to the ſpirit of his own laws. Having fixed the pain of death upon any citizen that ſhould enter the ſenate-houſe armed, and being reminded that in his hurry he had brought a ſword with him into the aſſembly, he immediately plunged it into his breaſt, and ſealed his decree with his own blood. Thurium flouriſhed long even under the dominion of Rome, till falling to decay, it was judged

expedient

expedient to ſend a colony thither; after which event it aſſumed the name of Copia*.

Herodotus, the father of hiſtory, died at Thurium. Auguſtus Cæſar was nicknamed Thurinus in his youth, either from his father's having governed this province, or from his family's deriving its origin from hence.

Suetonius made Adrian a preſent of a ſtatue of Auguſtus, with this name inſcribed on the baſe. Cicero and Antony both reproached him with the lowneſs of his origin, and aſſerted that his father, the firſt of the race who had attained any honours in the republic, was, in the beginning, no better than a money-ſcrivener; yet it is the common opinion, that this fortunate heir of Julius Cæſar ſprang from a rich equeſtrian family of Veletri.

* Nummi Thurinorum.

AUR. 1. Cap. Palladis cum monſtro marino.=Taurus ΘΟΥΡΙΩΝ.
ARG. 1. Cap. Pall.=Taurus cornupeta. piſcis ΘΟΥΡΙΩΝ.
2. Cap. Pallad. elatum.=Taurus cornup. vict. ſupervol. cor. impon. ΘΟΥΡΙΩΝ.
3. Cap. Pall. laur.=Taurus gradiens, piſcis—ΘΟΥΡΙΩΝ.
4. Cap. Pall.=Semibos Θ.
ÆR. 1. Cap. Pall. gal.=Taurus corn. piſcis ΘΟΥΡΙΩΝ.
2. Cap. Apoll.=Tripus ΘΟΥΡΙΩΝ.
3. Cap. Apoll.=Lyra ΘΟΥΡΙΩΝ.
4. Cap. imb. diad.=Homo nud. ſtans ΚΛΕΩΝ ΘΟΥΡΙΩΝ.

Nummi Copienſium.

ÆR. 1. Cap. Pallad. 4 globuli.=Cornucopiæ 4 glob. COΠΙΑ.
2. Cap. Herculis 3 glob.=Cornuc. 3 glob. L. CAIO COPIA.
3. Cap. Mercurii petaſat.=Cornuc. 3 glob. Q. P. C. COPIA.

SECTION XXXIX.

WE ferried over the Crati, a fine broad river, clear and rapid. The ancients were of opinion, that its waters were medicinal, and had the faculty of tinging, of a fair or yellow colour, the hair of all who drank them conſtantly; and that thoſe of the Sybaris turned it black. They deemed it imprudent to drive cattle to drink at the Sybaris, as the water was apt to excite dangerous ſneezings and convulſions, being ſtrongly impregnated with mephitic gas.

For the next three miles, our evening ride was up a moſt beautiful ſloping hill, thickly planted with orange, lemon, citron, olive, almond, and other fruit-trees, which, by their contraſted ſhades of green, and the variety of their ſize and ſhape, compoſed one of the richeſt proſpects I ever beheld, even in Italy, that country of enchanting landſcape. I was enraptured with the beautiful ſcene, and almoſt intoxicated with perfumes. The river Crati iſſues out of a chaſm in the chain of mountains, forcing its boiſterous way to the Ionian ſea, which, though four miles from the place where I ſtood, appeared, in that bright atmoſphere, to lie cloſe to the foot of the hill, juſt edged with a ſlip of verdant paſture. The little town of Corigliano riſes boldly on the peak of the richly clothed knoll, like the watch-tower and ſafeguard of all theſe natural treaſures. It is a dutchy belonging

longing to the Saluzzi, a Genoeſe family, which has been for ſome years paſt annexed to the Seggio or ward of Porto at Naples. The buildings are rather better than thoſe of the other Calabrian towns I had paſſed near, and contain about eight thouſand inhabitants, who have an appearance of extreme poverty, and, like Tantalus, ſtarve in the midſt of plenty, though their lord has the reputation of being one of the moſt humane, as well as opulent, feudatories in the province. He has taken ſome pains to promote agriculture, and the breeding of horſes and cattle; but his ſucceſs has hitherto been inconſiderable.

It was a pleaſing and refreſhing circumſtance to meet whole droves of mules and aſſes laden with oranges juſt plucked. They were carrying them to the ſea-ſhore, to be embarked in ſmall boats for Taranto and Gallipoli. The evening ſea-breeze, ſtrongly ſcented with the grateful effluvia, fanned me ſo delightfully, that with reluctance I entered the town, where I found the inn a very pitiful one, and infected with ſuch diſagreeable odours, as formed a woeful contraſt with the perfumed air I had lately breathed. I never entered a Venta in Spain that was not preferable to this, for ſmell, cleanlineſs, and proviſions. The route given me at Naples having made no mention of Carigliano as a ſleeping-ſtage, I came, without any letter, to the Duke's agent, and therefore was refuſed a bed in his manſion. Upon this denial, I took up my lodging at the houſe of a dealer in oil. The maſter was abſent, and we ſaw nobody but

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an old woman ſervant: the reſt of the family kept themſelves locked up. I was ſo ill accommodated, that, as ſoon as it was poſſible next morning to get ready, I rode down to the plains through a moſt delightful country, which I cannot pretend to deſcribe in a manner to do it juſtice. On every ſide, fruits and flowers roſe in cluſters, freſhened by the morning air; the round heads of the orange-trees glowed with the rays of the ſun that was juſt riſing, and darting his beams along the ſurface of the ſea: the whole neighbourhood was enlivened by crowds of men and women ſinging as they deſcended the hill to their daily labour. Every production here is in the higheſt perfection it can poſſibly attain when unaſſiſted by art. The huſbandry of this province is ſlovenly, and the ſkill in gardening very ſuperficial. Both betray a want of emulation and intelligence. Climate and ſoil do more than half the work, and the hand of diſpirited man is ſluggiſhly applied to the taſk; partial Nature empties the horn of plenty on his head, but from many fatal cauſes, her bounty contributes little to his welfare; whilſt we ſee, in more northern and leſs happy regions, the active enterpriſing labourer able to extort favours from her, and, with the leaſt gawdy of her riches, raiſe himſelf to comfort and independence.

The road in the plain is very pleaſant, under the ſhade of olive-trees or evergreen oaks, and through many tracks of very fine corn-fields; but at the end of ſix miles, it grows ſtony, ſteep, and rough, up to the very gates of Roſſano, which

which ſtands in a hollow, ſurrounded by fertile hills. There is nothing in this archiepiſcopal city that claims much notice; the buildings are mean, the ſtreets vilely paved and contrived. The number of inhabitants does not exceed ſix thouſand, who ſubſiſt by the ſale of their oil, the principal object of their attention, though the territory produces a great deal of good wine and corn.

The lower parts of the hills that encircle this town are compoſed of Breccia, or pebbles, particles of marcaſites, mica, and lead, united together by means of a red bolar earth. There is no regularity in the ſtrata, nor appearance of any gradual ſubſidence; the upper parts are a tophus full of petrified pectinites, and other exuviæ, of which the analogous ſhell-fiſh ſtill exiſts in theſe ſeas. From the numerous fragments of lead, and ſome bits of ſilver ore picked up in the torrents, I conjecture that the mountains to the weſtward contain mines of thoſe metals; though I have been aſſured by a judicious mineralogiſt of this country, that the accounts given by many writers of the Calabrian mines are vague exaggerations, and that nothing has yet been diſcovered but ſlender veins of ore, not likely to turn to any account in the working.

Roſſano probably owes its origin to the Roman Emperors, who conſidered it as a poſt equally valuable for ſtrength and convenience of traffic. The Marſans, a family of French extraction, poſſeſſed this territory, with the title of Prince, from the time of Charles the Second to that of Alphonſus the Second, when the laſt male heir was, by that

Prince's order, put to death in Iſchia, where he was confined for treaſon *.

Roſſano afterwards belonged to Bona, Queen of Poland, in right of her mother Iſabella, daughter to Alphonſus the Second, and at her deceaſe returned to the Crown. It was next in the poſſeſſion of the Aldobrandini, from whom the Borgheſi inherited it.

So late as the ſixteenth century, the inhabitants of this city ſpoke the Greek language, and followed the rite of the Eaſtern church. Here was formerly the moſt celebrated rendezvous of the Baſilian monks in Magna Græcia. Of that body, the moſt conſpicuous member was Nilus, a ſaint of a very extraordinary character; for, during his whole life, he perſiſted in refuſing donations of lands, rents, and tenements, though he was the founder of many monaſteries. Dominichino, by his admirable freſco paintings in the

* This illuſtrious Houſe poſſeſſed extenſive domains in almoſt every province, and made that uſe of their power and wealth, which is but too common in kingdoms diſtracted by civil diſſentions and litigated titles. The Marſans were principals in all diſturbances, and took an active part in every commotion. Of theſe Princes, the moſt potent was Marino, long the inveterate foe, but finally the dupe of Ferdinand the Firſt; a King who was far from being ſcrupulous in the means he employed to over-reach his enemies, or to rid himſelf of them when once in his power. In his treatment of Marino, the law of retaliation ſeems to plead his excuſe, as that giddy nobleman had, ſometime before his ruin, enticed the King to a conference near Teano, and there attempted to murder him. The plan failed in the execution, from the conſternation and cowardice of the conſpirators. Marſan was kept twenty-five years in priſon; and then, to complete the extermination of the whole rebellious baronage, was, with many other noblemen, ſecretly executed, his fortunes for ever loſt, and his family annihilated.

church of Grotta Ferrata, near Rome, has made his legend more familiar to the dilettanti, than it is to the common run of devotees; for this ſaint, being a Greek, is in no very high repute in the Latin rubric: the numerous founders and reformers of orders in ſubſequent times, have engroſſed to themſelves almoſt the whole ſtock of homage; and I believe very few Romans ever heard his name, though he died in their neighbourhood. The Greek monks were the preſervers of books and literature in the ſouth of Italy; for the Lombards deſpiſed and neglected the ſciences. Charles the Bald invited learned men from Greece to inſtruct his ſubjects, and revive a taſte for learning among them. Theſe prieſts opened, in the convent of St. Nicholas, near Otranto, a famous ſchool, to which great numbers of ſtudents flocked, and received inſtruction gratis. The monaſtery even ſupported thoſe ſcholars that wanted the means of providing for their own maintenance. The auſterity of life and profound learning of the Baſilian Cenobites, gained them the eſteem of princes and people, and procured them eſtabliſhments in the kingdom to the number of five hundred. They maintained their ground to the ſixteenth century, uſing the Greek idiom, but the Latin rite.

Pope John the Seventh, who was choſen in 705, was a native of Roſſano. Theologians blame him for his weakneſs, in yielding too much to the requeſts of the Emperor and the Eaſtern prelates.

SECTION XL.

MY ſtay at Roſſano was very ſhort; as the guide was eager to ſet out, leſt we ſhould be benighted before we reached Cariati, between which place and Roſſano he aſſured me we ſhould find very indifferent accommodations. We rode all the afternoon in a moſt beautiful vale, cultivated with great neatneſs, and abounding with pulſe and vegetables of various ſorts. We paſſed ſeveral rivulets that water and fertilize theſe fields. The Trionto alone * deſerves the name of river, though not a navigable one, as ſome geographers ſtyle it. One of our horſes falling lame, we were obliged to take up our abode for the night at Mirti, a ſingle houſe, or *Fondaco*. This inn was better than I expected, and the hoſt very civil. He earneſtly recommended to the ſervants to leave nothing out of doors, as there was an encampment of Zingari, or gypſies, in the neighbouring fields, who would lay their hands upon any part of the baggage that was not watched with ſtrict attention. His caution led me to an enquiry into the ſtate of this ſtrange tribe of vagabonds, of whom I had ſeen great numbers in Spain. The reſult of his accounts, combined with thoſe I have received from other hands, is as follows:

* Anciently the Traeis.

The

The gypſies of Calabria do not contract alliances with any other claſs of inhabitants, but marry among themſelves. It is not poſſible to ſay where they reſide, as they have no fixed habitation, conſequently poſſeſs neither houſe nor land; but wherever they think proper to make any ſtay, pitch their tents. They ſupport life by the profits of little handicrafts, but more by thoſe of ſwopping aſſes and horſes, which they will do for the ſmalleſt trifle to boot; nay, one has been known to truck his aſs with another for a glaſs of wine. They generally work in iron, and make trivets, knitting-needles, bodkins, and ſuch baubles. Their dreſs is extremely ſhabby; they ſhave their chins, but indulge a great length of hair, which they ſeldom diſturb with either comb or ſciſſars. As to their religion, it is a ſecret they keep locked up in their own breaſts. They ſeem to have no great veneration for the Virgin Mary; but are ſuppoſed to believe in Chriſt. All the proof we have of their belief depends upon appearance, and an occaſional conformity to the ceremonies of the Roman Catholic church in marriage, burials, &c.; but ifthe prieſts ſtart any difficulties, they manage the matter without their interference, and perform the functions according to their own cuſtoms; which in many points reſemble thoſe of the heathens. At their weddings they carry torches, and have paranymphs to give the bride away, with many other unuſual rites. It is in reality almoſt an abſurdity to talk of the religion of a ſet of people whoſe moral character is ſo depraved, as to make it evident they

believe in nothing capable of being a check upon their paſſions. They are univerſally accounted to be pilferers, cheats, faithleſs, ſhameleſs, and abandoned to all manner of diſſoluteneſs. The following anecdote will ſhew how little they are under the control of modeſty, or fear of ſhame. A gang of gypſies aſſembled at the fair of Marſico Nuovo, with an intention of robbing the ſhops, for which purpoſe a proper number of them were diſperſed in the throng. To draw off the merchants by ſome very extraordinary incitement to curioſity, was the next point to be conſidered; and with this view they adopted an expedient that would have ſhocked the moſt hardened libertine. Some of their men and women went into the adjacent fields, and there proceeded to ſuch indecent liberties, as ſoon brought moſt of the people of the fair about them, and left their ſhops a prey to the confederate thieves.

Contracts and plighting of faith are by them eſteemed mere empty forms; and whenever the breach promiſes more advantage than the obſervance, they never heſitate a moment. No cheats can be more artful or impudent. When they bring their aſſes to ſale, they prick their ſhoulders with very ſmall needles ſet in a piece of cork, which makes the poor animals bound like deer. The unſuſpecting chapman thinks he buys the fleeteſt of beaſts, and perhaps finds, upon trial, that he has purchaſed a dull, reſtive, foundered grizel. The gypſies have a way of throwing down the mules and aſſes they wiſh to buy, and thereby depreciating

their merit*. They tell fortunes, and play juggling tricks, as they do in all other countries where they are tolerated. In 1560, they were baniſhed the kingdom as thieves, cheats, and ſpies for the Turks. In 1569, and 1585, the order was renewed, but not being enforced, had little effect.

A gypſy being brought to trial for larceny, declared, That his law allowed him to take from others as much every day as ſufficed for his maintenance. Theſe people make uſe of two languages, one Calabrian, with a foreign accent and pronunciation; the other, a peculiar one of their own; which, in ſound, ſeems to bear a great affinity to the Oriental tongues, and is ſpoken when they have ſecrets to impart to each other.

One of the moſt intelligent of the crew being aſked, Why his nation was a wandering one? replied, That they cannot remain in a place above a few days without being over-run with lice. This propenſity to breed vermin proceeds from their exceſſive filthineſs. They ſleep like dogs in a kennel, huddled altogether, men, women, and children, taking up no more room aſleep than if they were dead and buried, which crowding muſt cauſe a heat and fermentation extremely favourable to the multiplication of nauſeous inſects.

On the 10th of May we travelled along the ſhore, having high land on our right. The numberleſs beds of

* When they travel through a country where herds of horſes and aſſes are ſuffered to wander without a keeper, they ſteal them, by caſting over their necks a ball of lead faſtened to a thong.

torrents,

torrents, which we were obliged to croſs, made the road very unpleaſant. The firſt place we came to was Cariati, a principality belonging to the Spinelli, one of the moſt opulent feudatory families, divided into ſeveral branches, and poſſeſſed of very capital fiefs in Calabria *. This city is ſmall, and thinly inhabited, on account of the weakneſs of its ſituation, and dread of the Turks, who, before a treaty was concluded with the Porte, were continually ravaging this coaſt. Its cathedral is a very heavy Gothic ſtructure, dedicated to St. Peter, and the only pariſh. The ſurrounding hills are gay, and pleaſingly covered with fruit-trees; the woods behind them produce manna of excellent quality; much Turkey wheat is cultivated in the lands below, and extenſive paſtures afford luxuriant and wholeſome ſuſtenance to a great ſtock of oxen, buffaloes, ſheep, goats, and ſwine. In Calabria, all the oxen are white, large, and long-horned, except thoſe of the red breed, which have been introduced from Sicily by the Princes of Cariati and Geraci. I never ſaw buffaloes of any colour but black; and moſt of the goats, ſheep, and hogs are of that hue. The laſt ſpecies have no hair, but are as ſleek in the hide

* This family came from Somma, and is not mentioned in the chronicles before the year 1224. The man who laid the foundation of this wealth was John Baptiſt Spinelli, conſervator of the royal patrimony under Ferdinand the Catholic, to whom he recommended himſelf by the vigilance with which he watched the motions of the Viceroy Gonſalvo de Cordova. Ferdinand, on his arrival at Naples, diſtinguiſhed John very much, and gave, or enabled him to purchaſe, Cariati and other conſiderable eſtates, ſince augmented by the prudence of his deſcendants.

as an elephant. This country abounds with game of the leſſer feathered tribes, ſuch as doves, quails, nd other birds of paſſage. Dormice are here accounted delicate game, as they were in ancient Rome, where they were kept in warrens, and fatted for the tables of the moſt refined epicures. The hair of theſe animals is here more generally grey than ruſſet. They are ſmoked out of their neſts in hollow trees, and caught with ſharp hooks. Their ſkins make very fine leather.—The ſea of Cariati abounds with fiſh. At a place called Terra Vecchia, eaſt of the city, are the ſlight remains of Paternum.

After dinner, we travelled four miles through arable lands of a ſtrong clayey ſoil, where the courſe of huſbandry is, to take a crop of wheat, and then to leave the field fallow two years for paſturage. We afterwards croſſed hilly olive grounds, covered with looſe ſtones, under which I found ſome ſtrata of compact grindſtone, and lumps of whetſtone, of a good quality. At the foot of theſe hills runs the Aquanile, which, both from name and poſition, I take to be the Hylias, anciently the limit between Sybaris and Croton. On its banks the Crotoniates gained the victory which made them maſters of the Sybaritan territory. They were led to battle by Milo the wreſtler, equipped like Hercules, with club and lion's ſkin, and crowned with the prize-wreaths he had won at the Olympic games.

My intention was to have ſlept at the town of Ciro, which ſeems to ſtand on the ſite of Crimiſſa, a city founded by

by Philoctetes, the friend, and, to his coſt, the heir of Hercules. But being aſſured that I ſhould meet with neither accommodations nor proviſions at that place, I preferred remaining below in the plain, at a ſingle houſe, where my apartment was none of the beſt; but I had ſeen worſe; and the civility of the people made amends for inconveniences. Ciro is a very poor place, containing about ſix thouſand inhabitants; it belongs to Spinelli, Prince of Tarſia, who monopolizes all the ſilk made by his vaſſals. The territory produces alſo very fine oil and corn, execrable wine, but good water. This town, though by no means in an unhealthy ſituation, affords a livelihood to ſix doctors in phyſic. The evening was mild and ſtill; I ſpent it in a ſolitary walk along the beach of Cape Alice, the moſt eaſtern point of the Calabrian coaſt, except the Lacinian or Crotonian promontory. It was famous for a temple of Apollo Halyus, of which I could not diſcover the ſmalleſt veſtige; the waves of the ſea having covered, or the hand of man removed, every ſtone of it. During ſupper, the keeper of the neighbouring watch-tower came to pay me a viſit. A glaſs or two of wine reſtored that liberty to his tongue which reſpect had reſtrained; and, after endeavouring to impreſs me with a high idea of his courage, and the havoc he would make with his ſingle gun in an army of Algerines, he entertained me with ſeveral anecdotes of his brother-warders; one of which I noted for its ſingularity. Part of the crew of a Barbary veſſel had landed near

a mari-

a maritime tower, with an intent of plundering a village on the coaſt; when their progreſs was impeded, and their fury diverted, by the watchman's ſhooting their Reys through the head from the battlements. The Infidels flew to the foot of the tower, and attacked it with great fury. In ſpite of the fire and other efforts of the defender, they had almoſt reached the top; when the poor Calabrian, finding his ammunition gone, and his caſe deſperate, bethought himſelf of a ſingular engine of defence. He ſnatched up ſome bee-hives that ſtood on the platform, and running round the parapet, ſhook out the angry inſects upon the aſſailants; who, ſtung to the quick, and terrified with this incomprehenſible, miraculous attack, were glad to relinquiſh the ſcalado, and plunge into the water, to deliver themſelves from their cruel antagoniſts. It is not every warder that can ſtrike out ſuch reſources in generalſhip; and without them his poſt is ſcarce tenable; for the towers are but indifferently conſtructed, or provided for reſiſtance: they are ſquare and bulky, and not very lofty. The door is about half-way up, with a ladder, which is taken in at night; over this is a terrace, on which is placed a cannon, more for the purpoſe of alarming the coaſt, than ſinking the boats of an enemy. I was told at Rome, by an inſpector of theſe forts, that, in the courſe of his viſitation, he came once to a tower, where the guard, in anſwer to the uſual queries concerning his ſkill and care of the artillery, led him into the room under the battery, and pointing

to a packthread ſteeped in brimſtone, that hung through a crevice in the cieling from the touch-hole of the cannon, informed him, that he had found out that to be the ſafeſt and moſt expeditious method of diſcharging the piece.

SECTION XLI.

THE next day we arrived at Cotrone for dinner; having baited in the plain below Strongoli, a city on a rugged mountain, ſuppoſed to be the ancient Petelia*. Philocletes firſt ſettled a colony at Petelia, which afterwards became the capital of the Lucanians, and made a conſpicuous figure, in the ſecond Punic war, by its obſtinate reſiſtance to Hannibal. Marcellus, the illuſtrious rival of that hero, periſhed in a ſkirmiſh near its walls. Strongoli belongs to a Pignatelli, who keeps a large ſtud of horſes in the waſte lands near the ſea. The Calabrian horſes are pretty, ſpirited and brilliant in their motions, but in general

* Nummi Petelinorum.

ÆR. 1. Cap. barb. galeat.=Victoria gradiens d. coron. ΠΕΤΗΛΙΝΩΝ.
2. Cap. imb. rad.=Tripus. Τ. ΠΕΤΗΛΙΝΩΝ.
3. Cap. mul. velat.=Jupiter fulminans ΠΕΤΗΛΙΝΩΝ.
4. Cap. Jovis=Jup. fulm. tripus. ΠΕΤΗΛΙΝΩΝ.
5. Cap. Jovis.=Fulmen. Ƥ. ΠΕΤΗΛΙΝΩΝ.
6. Cap. Apoll.=Figura mulieb. grad. d. ſtyl. ΠΕΤΗΛΙΝΩΝ. duo glob.
7. Cap. Herculis=Clava ΠΕΤΗΛΙΝΩΝ.
8. Cap. mul.=Canis. ΠΕΤΗΛΙΝΩΝ.

low,

low, and ſeldom free from vice. I know by experience that they can go through ſevere fatigue, having rode a ſmall one, in hot weather, five ſucceſſive days, at the rate of fifty miles a day. This breed is not attended to with all the care it deſerves; for the prohibition of exportation renders the owners much more indifferent about the perfection of their horſes than they would be, if there were a demand from other countries, and a briſk ſale allowed, to excite their emulation. Another cauſe of neglect lies in the exceſſive badneſs of the roads in this mountainous country, where mules, being much more hardy and enduring, are fitter for ſervice, and conſequently more marketable. They carry upwards of three cantara, through the moſt difficult, dangerous ways imaginable, without ſtumbling.—The Barons have no excluſive feudal right to breed horſes, though ſome of them arrogate to themſelves a monopoly by violence. We paſſed the Nieto* in a boat. The air is unwholeſome on the banks of this river, which divides the two Calabrias; but the herbage muſt be incomparable, if I may judge from the delicacy and ſweetneſs of the milk and cream cheeſes, for which this canton is renowned.

Cotrone has ſucceeded to the Greek city of Croton, but does not cover the ſame extent of ground. I was aſſured that in ſummer this climate is unhealthy; a misfortune that cannot proceed from local cauſes; for the ſalubrity of

* Anciently Neœthus.

Croton was famous to a proverb among the ancients. The Eſaro, which flowed through the very centre of the old town, now runs in a ſhallow ſtony bed, at a conſiderable diſtance north of the gates.

Great works have been conſtructed, in the preſent reign, to form a harbour for this town. Time will ſhew whether the exertions of miniſtry have been directed by ſkill and judgment; and whether the obſtacles, that heretofore prevented veſſels from riding in ſafety before Cotrone, have been ſufficiently removed and guarded againſt for the future. The entrance of the new haven is open to the north and north-eaſt winds; points of the compaſs from which very boiſterous blaſts ruſh down the Adriatic, acroſs the Tarentine gulph, though perhaps leſs tremendous than the Scilocco and ſoutherly winds. As the hills and projection of the capes protect Cotrone from ſtorms on the ſouth quarter, I am ſurpriſed the engineers did not direct the mouth of the haven more eaſterly: the entrance would have been eaſier, and the veſſels leſs diſturbed while in port. However, as I pretend to no technical knowledge in the engineering line, but ſpeak from rude gueſs and curſory obſervation, I am willing to believe there were ſufficient reaſons for proceeding on the plan that has been adopted. Perhaps the weight of water rolled up the gulph might create a dangerous ſwell, or ſands might in time accumulate at the paſſage, if the harbour lay open to the eaſt. But it is the opinion of many ſenſible obſervers, that greater

advantages might have been procured for the money, and that very great additional expence is requiſite to complete the undertaking. I ſhould no doubt have judged more favourably of an enterprize, which, like the hand of a Creator, forms a port, where the ancient mariners deſpaired of procuring ſecure anchorage,—had I not been informed that the venerable fragments of the old city, its ſuburbs and temples, had been dilapidated, to furniſh materials for the piers and buttreſſes. This was a very trifling ſaving, in ſo expenſive a concern; and appears a piece of extraordinary barbariſm in miniſters, that plumed themſelves upon their excavations at Herculaneum, and the care with which they preſerved the precious monuments of antiquity *. Cotrone is fortified with ſingle walls, and a caſtle erected by Charles the Fifth. Its private buildings are poor and ſordid; the ſtreets diſmal and narrow: ill-humour, miſery, and deſpondency were ſtrongly depicted in the countenance of every inhabitant I met. There is very little buſtle; little commercial hurry; cheeſe and corn are the principal commodities. For the ſtowage of corn, there are ranges of granaries in the ſuburbs; and the annual export is about two hundred thouſand tomoti. The cheeſe is tolerably good; but has a great deal of that hot, acrid taſte, ſo common to all cheeſe made with goats milk. The wine

* The harbour is capable of containing a conſiderable number of merchant-ſhips, but none above the tonnage of a Polacca. The mouth of the port is marked by two light-houſes.

is not unpleaſant, and appears ſuſceptible of improvement, by better management in the making and keeping.

This being the actual ſtate of the town, let us caſt a view back upon its ſituation in thoſe ages, when four republics, founded by Grecian refugees, gave the law to the ſhores of the Tarentine, Ionian, and part of the Tyrrhenian ſeas; when neither the Lucanians nor Bruttians had aſſembled together in ſufficient numbers, amidſt their mountainous receſſes, to diſturb or oppoſe the dominion of theſe colonies. I ſhall form no conjectures concerning Hercules or Myſcellus, the ſuppoſed founders of Croton; but take for granted that it was occupied by navigators from Achaia; and that their poſterity roſe by virtue and valour to the higheſt eminence of fame among the ſons of Greece. But this valour, this virtue, appear to have been called forth by the wholeſome precepts and ſevere inſtitutes of the Pythagorean ſchool. Pythagoras, after his long peregrinations in ſearch of knowledge, fixed his reſidence in this place, which ſome authors think his native one, at leaſt that of his parents, ſuppoſing him to have been born in the iſle of Samos, and not at ſome town of that name in Italy. This incomparable ſage ſpent the latter part of his life in training up diſciples to the rigid exerciſe of ſublime and moral virtue, and inſtructing the Crotoniates in the true arts of government, ſuch as alone can inſure happineſs, glory, and independence.

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Under the influence of this philoſophy, the Crotoniates inured their bodies to frugality and hardſhips, and their minds to ſelf-denial and patriotic diſintereſtedneſs. Their virtues were the admiration of Greece, where it was a current proverb, that the laſt of the Crotoniates was the firſt of the Greeks. In one Olympiad, ſeven of the victors in the games were citizens of Croton; and the name of Milo is almoſt as famous as that of Hercules. The vigour of the men, and beauty of the women, were aſcribed to the climate, which was believed to be endowed with qualities peculiarly favourable to the human ſyſtem. Their phyſicians were in high repute; and among theſe, Alcmeon and Democides rendered themſelves moſt conſpicuous. Alcmeon was the firſt who dared to amputate a limb, in order to ſave the life of a patient; and alſo the firſt writer who thought of inculcating moral precepts under the amuſing cloak of apologues. This invention is more commonly attributed to Æſop, as he was remarkably ingenious in this ſpecies of compoſition. Democides was famous for his attachment to his native ſoil. Though careſſed and enriched by the King of Perſia, whoſe queen he had ſnatched from the jaws of death, he abandoned wealth and honours, and by ſtratagem eſcaped to the humble comforts of a private life at Croton.—The Pythagoreans are ſaid to have diſcovered that diſpoſition of the ſolar ſyſtem, which, with ſome modifications, has been revived by Copernicus, and is now univerſally received, as being moſt agreeable to nature

and

and experiment. Theano, the wife of Pythagoras, and many other women, emulated the virtues of their huſbands *.

In thoſe fortunate days the ſtate of Croton was moſt flouriſhing. Its walls incloſed a circumference of twelve miles. Of all the colonies ſent out from Greece, this alone furniſhed ſuccour to the mother-country when invaded by the Perſians. By its avenging arms the Sybarites were puniſhed for their ſhameful degeneracy; but victory proved fatal to the conquerors, for riches, and all their pernicious attendants, inſinuated themſelves into Croton, and ſoon con-

* Nummi Crotonorum.

AUR. 1. Cap. Mul.=Hercules ſedens aquam verſ. KPOTΩNIATAN.

ARG. 1. Tripus ♀▷o. Incuſſus.
2. Idem cum ave.
3. Tripus ♀▷o. avis.=Aquila capite reverſo.
4. Facies plena diad. cum monili.=Hercules ſed. ſup. exuvias leon. d. vas. ſuprà arcus clava & pharetra KPOTONIATAN.
5. Fac. pl. diad. cum mon.=Hercules tectus pelle leon. aquam fundens ex vaſe in tripodem—clava KPOTON. OΣ.
6. Cap. Apollinis diad.=Hercules ſtrang. leon.
7. Cap. Apoll. laur. KPOTΩNIATAN.=Civitas murata. ſuprà fulmen in muris victoria et eques.
8. Aquila fulm. inſ.=Tripus, cornucop. KPO.
9. Tripus. ⊞. KPOTONIATAN.—Aquila volans ung. palmæ ramum tem.
10. Sæpia.=Tripus cum ave ♀▷o.
11. Cap. Apoll.=Lyra.
12. Avis=Taurus ♀—v. ſtella cochlea.

ÆR. 1. Herculis cap. KPO.=Tripus ⊂Y.
2. Cap. Jovis.=3 lunæ et ſtellæ.
3. Cap. Cereris.=Tres lunæ KPO.
4. Cap. imb.=3 lunæ KPO.

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taminated the purity of its principles. Indeed, the very conſtitution of human nature militates againſt any long continuance in ſuch rigid practices of virtue; and therefore it is no wonder if the Crotoniates fell by degrees into the irregularities they once abhorred. Not long after, the Locrians, who were leſs corrupted, defeated them on the banks of the Sagra, and reduced the republic to diſtreſs and penury. This reſtored the remaining Crotoniates to their priſtine vigour of mind, and enabled them to make a brave, though unſucceſsful reſiſtance, when attacked by Dionyſius of Syracuſe. They ſuffered much in the war with Pyrrhus, and, by repeated misfortunes, decreaſed in ſtrength and numbers, from age to age, down to that of Hannibal, when they could not muſter twenty thouſand inhabitants. This ſmall population being incapable of manning the extenſive works erected in the days of proſperity, Croton was taken by the Carthaginians, and its citizens tranſported to Locri. The Romans ſent a colony hither two hundred years before Chriſt. In the Gothic war, this city rendered itſelf conſpicuous by its fidelity to Juſtinian, and Totila beſieged it long in vain. In one of the campaigns, during the war between Charles of Anjou and Frederick of Aragon, the latter not only drove his rival out of Sicily, but purſued his advantages into Calabria, where his fortunate admiral, Roger Lauria, obtained a complete victory over the Provençal party. The next ſtep taken by the conqueror was to inveſt Cotrone, which made no long defence, but ſent out commiſſioners

to propoſe a capitulation. During the negociation, the Sicilians, taking advantage of the ſecurity and negligence of the beſieged, entered the city by ſurpriſe, and plundered it without mercy. The admiral inſiſted upon reſtitution being made; but Frederick could not prevail upon himſelf to relinquiſh a prize already won, and by this refuſal to do juſtice to Lauria's warranty, provoked him to join the Angevines, and become a moſt formidable opponent.

A branch of the Houſe of Rufo was long in poſſeſſion of the fief of Cotrone. Henrietta, their heireſs, was deſtined, by Alphonſus the Firſt, to be the wife of his favourite, Inigo de Avalos; but ſhe fell in love with, and married Antony Centeglia, who had been ſent by Alphonſus to ſettle the preliminaries of the match. Centeglia ſoon felt the weight of royal vengeance; was beſieged in Catanzaro, and obliged to ſurrender at diſcretion. The King confined both him and his wife in Naples, where they ſpent many years in poverty and obſcurity. On the demiſe of Alphonſus, Antony eſcaped to Calabria, and excited that province to revolt. The beginning of his enterprize was ſucceſsful; but upon his being worſted and taken priſoner, all the hopes of his party vaniſhed, and his family ſank again into miſery.

SECTION XLII.

IN order to vary the ſcene, I hired a boat to carry me round the capes, while my horſes proceeded the ſhorteſt way to Catanzaro. By this plan I had an opportunity of ſeeing ſome places that lie out of the direct route by land.

We ſoon doubled Cape Nau, and darting through a ſhallow bay full of ſhelves and iſlets, landed at Cape delle Colonne, known in ancient geography by the name of the Lacinian Promontory, which, with the promontory of Salentum, or St. Maria di Leuca, forms the mouth of the Tarentine Gulf, ſeventy miles wide. The land is very high, rocks, coarſe granite, and breccia. On a point impending over the waves, are ſome ſcattered ſtones, and a few regular courſes of building, ſaid to be the ruins of the ſchool of Pythagoras, and of the temple of Juno Lacinia. About forty years ago, two columns of this edifice were ſtill ſtanding. One has long been fallen, the other ſtill remains ſtanding upon a foundation of large ſtones cut into facets, and ſerves as a landmark for navigators. Its order differs little from that of the columns at Metapontum; but ſome bricks, which appear intermixed with the ſtone-work, create a doubt in my mind, whether theſe fragments appertain to any building ſo ancient as the Crotonian republic. It may have been rebuilt by the Romans, and the old columns made to ſerve

again. This conjecture acquires weight by what hiſtory tells us of the Cenſor Fulvius Flaccus having ſtripped the roof of its marble flags, to cover a temple he had dedicated in Rome. The covering was ſent back by order of the ſenate; but from a want of ſlaters able to replace it properly, the edifice remained unroofed, and was probably deſtroyed by the weather. Reideſel ſuppoſes theſe ruins to have been part of Croton; but that is not poſſible, as they are ſeven miles from the Eſaro, which we know divided the town into two parts. In my opinion, they are more likely to be remains of the college of Juno's prieſts, or of the ſtalls for her numerous herds and flocks, that ranged undiſturbed over the lawns and under the groves. Few places of worſhip drew ſo many pilgrims as this temple. At ſtated ſeaſons, the roads of Italy and Greece were thronged with parties of devotees marching, with expiatory preſents and votive offerings, towards the ſhrine of the goddeſs. Such a conflux of ſacrifices ſwelled the holy treaſure to an incredible value. Among heaps of ornaments of the moſt precious materials, was diſtinguiſhed a column of ſolid gold. In a word, this wealth was the prototype of the golden wainſcot, maſſive lamps, and diamond crowns of Loreto. But Loreto has been hitherto more fortunate, or better protected than Lacinium, which frequently excited the cupidity, and became the prey, of ſacrilegious conquerors. This temple was the ſcene of a barbarous action committed by Hannibal, if we are to believe the Romans, who, by deſtroying

ſtroying all records of Punic hiſtory, have taken care to prevent our bringing any proof againſt their aſſertions. They write, that Hannibal, finding himſelf under the neceſſity of obeying the ſummons of the Carthaginian ſenate, aſſembled all his Italian allies in this temple, and there cauſed ſuch as refuſed to embark with him for Carthage, to be maſſacred by his African ſoldiers.

The view from this headland is very extenſive. I returned to my boat, and kept under the ſhore till we had paſſed three other capes, when night coming on, we were obliged to run into a cove on the ſouth-eaſt ſide of Capo Rizzuto, the northern head of the Squillacean gulf, as Capo di Stilo is the ſouthern one. My boatmen were very anxious to draw the felucca on ſhore, and ſhelter themſelves from danger under the gun of a watch-tower. They were much afraid leſt any Barbary rovers ſhould be lurking among the iſlands and creeks; though, from all their accounts, I could not find that they were often troubled with their viſits. The crew ſet up an awning, and prepared ſupper, perfectly ſatisfied with the ſafeguard of the tower, though ten Algerines would have been an overmatch for us and our protectors. I took a moon-light walk by the ſea-ſide, and ſpent an hour very agreeably. When I returned to my company, they expoſtulated with me on the raſhneſs of my venturing out alone; and ſeeing me laugh at their apprehenſions, nodded at each other, and agreed together, that I could not be ſo bold, unleſs I had a

charm about me. This remark excited my curioſity, and upon enquiry I learned that in Calabria there are certain old women who fabricate taliſmans on bits of parchment, which they ſell for eighteen ducats to the bravos that can afford to lay out ſo much money. This charm is ſuppoſed to render the wearer invulnerable; and as a preliminary ſecurity, a piſtol is fired at it: but care is taken to qualify the charge ſo as to drive the ball but feebly againſt the mark. The purchaſer, confident of ſafety, lays the amulet upon his breaſt, attacks his adverſaries without fear, and generally, by his daring appearance, ſtrikes them with a panic*.

Before day-break we puſhed off our boat, and rowed over to an iſland marked in every map as the habitation of Calypſo. Things muſt have changed wonderfully ſince the

* I have ſince procured one of theſe pieces of witchcraft from a prieſt, who had obliged a penitent of his to give it up, as belonging to wicked practices ſtrictly forbidden by the church.

It was couched exactly in theſe terms:

+

+ Anna Pariote

Incanto la tua perſona ardente da parte di Chriſto
innipotente da parte del ciorno di natale per
le tre meſſe chefi diſino in cielo ſi ſcriſſino
+lunedi ſanto+marte diſanto+mercodiſanto+
Ciovediſanto+Vennardiſanto+Sabatoſanto da tutte
Magarie ſia yuardata cirieleiſon Chriſtoeleiſon
corpo di Chriſto ſalvate+Aglio+taglio et ſaglio
+lega mane piede e core a chi offennare mi uoli
Sangue di Chriſto commoglia metu+.

time

time of Ulyſſes, or the goddeſs have daily worked a miracle in providing food, without which ſupernatural aſſiſtance the ſhipwrecked hero had died of hunger: at preſent this rock would ſcarcely maintain a ſheep. Some thickets of lentiſcus, and other bruſhwood, are the only repreſentatives of the tall trees which the Ithican chief felled for the conſtruction of his veſſel. Scholiaſts have fixed Calypſo's iſle at Cape Rizzuto, becauſe it is directly eaſt of Corfu, whither Ulyſſes ſteered with a weſt wind; but unleſs Homer talked of imaginary land, hidden from mankind, as the etymology of the words Ortygia and Calypſo imply, or, from the ſcarcity of geographical helps in that age, was ignorant of the true diſtances of places, it is difficult to reconcile matters to probability, I wont ſay truth, becauſe a poet is not ſuppoſed to be ſtrictly bound to it. Corcyra or Corfu, the land of the Phæacians, which is not a night's ſail from Ithica, is ſcarce one hundred miles diſtant from Italy, and therefore could not require ſeventeen days ſailing with a proſperous gale. Homer, in the opinion of Strabo and the moſt enlightened critics, had travelled much, and did not raiſe his epic building merely upon the ſhadowy baſis of fiction;—the voyages of Ulyſſes had been handed down by tradition, and to ſome well-known ſtories he added poetical embelliſhments. Perhaps the ſea has covered large tracts of land near this cape, and the rocky iſlets we ſtill perceive above the waters, may be no more than the tops of the hills that roſe upon the beautiful plains where Calypſo and her nymphs were ſaid to

wander. When, on conſidering Homer's narrative with attention, I find Ulyſſes is driven back into Charybdis by a ſouth wind, gets again upon the wreck, and congratulates himſelf upon his paſſing unnoticed under the jaws of Scylla, which was north of the whirlpool, I think it evident he was not carried into the Ionian, but the Mediterranean ſea, or, perhaps the ocean, where he was hurried away before the wind during nine days and nine nights, till he reached the iſland of Ortygia. The Baleares in one, or the Fortunate Iſles in the other, afforded room enough for the goddeſs's eſtabliſhment; and from thence he might very well be ſeventeen days before he ſaw Corfu riſe like a buckler on the ſea.

I found no charms on the iſland powerful enough to detain me; and therefore, after a breakfaſt on prawns and limpets, caught and dreſſed by my ſteerſman, I put off, and doubling the cape, entered the Gulph of Squilacce. The rocks are compoſed of pebbles, ſand, and ſhells, united together.

SECTION XLIII.

THE ſky was overcaſt, and threatened rain, which made us keep cloſe to the ſhore. We rowed round the little harbour of Caſtelle, probably the place formerly called Caſtra Hannibalis, from which that able, but ill-ſeconded general, em-

barked

barked for Carthage*. As we ſailed along, the man at the helm pointed out to me ſeveral inland towns of little note, but beautiful objects from the ſea. Cutro was one, remarkable for having given birth to Galeni, a renegado, who, in the ſixteenth century, roſe to great honour at the Ottoman Porte, and, by the name of Ulucciali Baſſá, commanded the Turkiſh fleet, was Viceroy of Algiers and Tunis, and became one of the greateſt ſcourges of Chriſtendom. In the height of his proſperity, he was deſirous of beſtowing a part of his wealth upon his aged mother, who lived in poverty at Cutro; but that ſpirited old woman refuſed to accept of the ſmalleſt token from a ſon, who had forſaken the religion of his fathers, and profeſſed himſelf the ſworn enemy of Chriſtianity.

Belcaſtro was another town in view, diſtinguiſhed by the birth of Saint Thomas di Aquino, whoſe father was Lord of this city. The good Calabreſe think the ſtain of having produced ten thouſand Uluccialis, perfectly wiped away by the glory of having one ſuch Doctor of the Church for their countryman†.

Cropani

* D'Anville places it near Squillace, from a perſuaſion that Pliny and Solinus fix Hannibal's camp in the narroweſt ſpot of the whole iſtmus; but it appears to me they only meant, that the port from which he took his departure was ſituated in the Gulph of Squillace, between which and that of St. Eufemia, Italy is not quite twenty miles broad. The name of a tower called Torre d'Annibale, a little to the weſt of this bay, is ſome proof that d'Anville miſtook the ſenſe of the above-mentioned authors.

† This Dominican ſaint was full as good a gentleman as the founder, St. Dominick de Guſman. The Houſe of Aquino derived its pedigree from the

Cropani was alſo in ſight, once a flouriſhing town, but reduced by earthquakes to a ruinous village. The country about it, is a gay mixture of bean and corn fields, vineyards, and tufts of walnut and mulberry trees, a rich variety very unuſual in a marine proſpect. Several rivers, emptying their waters into the ſea, make bold breaks in the hills, and produce charming accidents of light and ſhadow.

On the banks of the Litrello, one of the many ſtreams we ſaw, is a little village called Maliſano, fixed upon by the Spaniards for the birth-place of a man who, in 1600, gave the Court of Madrid a great deal of uneaſineſs. Parrino, one of the moſt ſervile flatterers among the court-writers, gives us, in his Theatre of Viceroys, the following curious account of this extraordinary perſonage: "This "year there came to Naples a famous impoſtor, who pre-"tended to be the King of Portugal. This man was a "Calabreſe of Maliſano, a village near Taverna, by name "Marco Tullio Cotiſone, who went to Padua in a pil-"grim's dreſs, and ſaid he was Don Sebaſtian. He was ſeized "by order of the ſtate, ſent to Venice, and formally inter-"rogated. To the queſtions put to him he made anſwer, "That the ſtory of his death had been vamped up by the "Spaniards; that he had eſcaped from the battle, and tra-"velled

Lombard Princes of Capua, one of whom, in the tenth century, granted the county of Aquino in Terra di Lavoro, to his ſon Adinolf. When it became again cuſtomary to diſtinguiſh families by ſurnames, the deſcendants of Adinolf aſſumed that of their earldom.

" velled to Jeruſalem, to fulfil a vow he had made in the
" moment of danger. As a proof of the identity of his
" perſon, beſides the likeneſs of features, ſimilarity of ſta-
" ture, and Portugueſe language, which he ſpoke in perfec-
" tion, he ſhewed one arm longer than the other, a
" remarkable and uncommon defect that had been ob-
" ſerved in the King. What moſt aſtoniſhed the ſenate,
" was his quickneſs of repartee, judgment in political
" matters, dignity of behaviour, princely carriage, and
" the minute account he gave of the private propoſals,
" anſwers, and negociations between that Prince and the
" Venetian Ambaſſadors at Liſbon. However, as it was
" well known Don Sebaſtian could not be alive, ſince King
" Philip had redeemed his body of the Moors for an hun-
" dred thouſand ducats, the Senate ſuſpected this man to
" be, what in reality he was, an infamous ſorcerer; and
" therefore, after two years impriſonment, baniſhed him
" out of their territories. The Portugueſe reſiding in
" Venice clothed him, and forwarded him to Florence in
" the diſguiſe of a friar; but there the Duke, who was
" attached to the Spaniſh intereſt, cauſed him to be ſeized,
" and ſent in chains to Naples. When he was brought
" into the preſence of the Viceroy Count de Lemos, who,
" on account of the heat, was ſtanding without his hat, he
" haughtily bid him be covered. Being aſked by the
" Viceroy, What authority he had for giving him ſuch an
" order? he replied, That although the Count could not

" have forgotten the buſineſs which had carried him twice " to Liſbon in the time of the late King Philip, he would " refreſh his memory with ſome particulars of the affair. " The minute detail he gave came ſo near to truth, that " the Viceroy was ſtruck with amazement; but, upon re- " collecting himſelf, declined all farther conference, and " ordered him to priſon. He remained there cloſely con- " fined till the arrival of the next Viceroy, when he was " brought to trial. His low birth was proved upon him, " the fraud diſcovered, and the impoſtor condemned to the " gallies. While on board, he gained the love and reſpect " of all his fellow-ſlaves, and was conſtantly treated by " them as if he had really been the perſon he wiſhed to " paſs for. He was afterwards ſent to the fleet of Sicily, " and there examined by the Duke of Medina Sidonia, " who had viſited Liſbon during the reign of Don Sebaſtian. " The priſoner addreſſed the Duke as an inferior, and " aſked him what became of an African boy he had given " him twenty-two years ago? Medina was confounded; " and burſting into tears, retired from the galley, very " much undecided what to think of the buſineſs. The " court, at laſt, thought it ſafeſt to rid themſelves of " him; and he was accordingly put to death on the iſland " Delle Femine, near Palermo. After he had been ſtretch- " ed on the rack, where he confeſſed that he had carried " on the cheat by the aſſiſtance of the Devil; and, in fact, " all thoſe marks which had rendered his lies ſo plauſible,

" diſappeared from his body the moment he was dead." Giannone, who wrote under the patronage of an Auſtrian prince, affects to treat this affair as a fooliſh trick; but many authors give more credit to the ſlave's ſtory. Parrino's abſurd recourſe to magic and diabolical illuſion, is rather an argument in favour of this unhappy man's pretenſions; for if the court of Spain could have deviſed better means of refuting his claim, it would certainly have employed them.

It was ſo late before we reached the place fixed upon for our landing, that I preferred ſleeping in the boat, to walking ſix miles up to Catanzaro, in the dark, without a certainty of finding lodgings. A few hours, next morning, ſufficed to examine every remarkable object in this capital of Nether Calabria.

Catanzaro was built in 963, by order of the Emperor Nicephorus Phocas, as a poſt of ſtrength againſt the Saracens. Its ſituation on an eminence, in the paſs between the mountains and ſea, ſeems judiciouſly choſen for the purpoſe of repelling thoſe Infidels, who, from Africa or Sicily, were wont to make good their landing at Reggio. Increaſe of inhabitants and of ſize cauſed it to be deemed a proper reſidence for the officers who compoſe the provincial tribunal; and, in 1593, it arrived at the dignity of capital, formerly the right of Reggio. At preſent, Catanzaro contains twelve thouſand inhabitants, who live by the law, and the ſale of corn, ſilk, and oil; of the laſt they export

export annually about ten thouſand ſalme. The water of this place has an unpleaſant taſte, and a great deal of earthy ſediment: the wine is very rough. The college of the late Jeſuits is a handſome building, and poſſeſſes a good ſtatue of St. Ignatius, by Fonſeca; and a very fine picture, repreſenting St. Bruno diſtributing bread to the poor. The firſt feudal inveſtiture of Catanzaro, was from King Roger, to his ſon-in-law Hugh de Molines, Earl of Moliſe. The next, from the firſt Charles to Peter Ruffo, whoſe family was in poſſeſſion down to the Aragonian reigns, when their eſtates went to Centeglia, and by him were forfeited.—Chaiſes can go no farther ſouth than this ſtage; and indeed I do not comprehend how they can penetrate ſo far. From hence to Reggio, the generality of travellers are conveyed in litters, by a route which croſſes the country, and runs along the ſhore of the Mediterranean.

In the afternoon, I rode ten miles to Squillacce, through a level, well-cultivated country, abounding in corn, pulſe, maize, mulberries, and olives. The wages of a labourer are fifteen grana *per diem*; the ſoil, a fertile loam, full of broken ſhells. My guide led me, with an air of triumph, to admire what he called a Temple of the old Saints of Calabria. Upon inſpection, it proved to be an edifice of Norman or Angevine times, with ſquare towers at the corners.

SECTION XLIV.

SQUILLACCE is built on the verge of a rocky mountain, ſloping to the eaſt, about three miles from the ſea. I do not know why Virgil gives this city the epithet of *Navifragum*, "Breaker of Ships;" as there are no hidden or apparent dangers attending the approach of veſſels. It is impoſſible this exact poet could be ſo careleſs, as to confound the attributes of the capacious bay of Scyllacæum, with the narrow paſs of Scylla in the Faro of Meſſina. Perhaps thoſe who explain the epithet by a tradition, that the firſt habitations of the place were built with fragments of the ſhip of Ulyſſes, may have ſtumbled upon a method of clearing up the difficulty.

In forming the body of Grecian commonwealths on the Italian ſhores, Athens furniſhed emigrants for Scyllacæum; but this ſettlement never made any figure in the confederacy *. Rome ſent a colony hither. In the year 982, the Emperor Otho the Second was defeated under its walls, by the forces of the Greeks; who, from this victory, conceived deluſive hopes of compelling Italy once more to reſume their yoke. Montfort obtained this lordſhip in fee from Charles of Anjou; but in the next reign it was given to the Marſans. This powerful houſe being overturned by the

* Num. Scyll.—ÆR. 1. Cap. Merc. Φ=Prora navis ΣΚΥΛΛΑΤΙΩΝ.

Aragoneſe,

Aragoneſe, the fief was beſtowed upon that of Borgia, and is now veſted in the Marquis Gregori, who, from being a commiſſioner of the victualing-office at Meſſina, roſe to be Prime Miniſter of Naples, and afterwards of Spain. Though he knew how to ſecure the partiality of his ſovereign, he was not able to conciliate the affections of the nation. A revolt in Madrid drove him out of the Spaniſh territories; and he has ever ſince reſided at Venice, as Ambaſſador from the Court of Spain. The Neapolitans attribute many pernicious meaſures to his counſel, and deteſt him as the cauſe of their heavieſt griefs and oppreſſions. We muſt wait for his death, and the ſubſiding of party-anger (the *recentia odia* of Tacitus), before we decide upon his criminality.

Squillacce prides itſelf on having given birth to Caſſiodorus, a ſtateſman of great abilities; and, conſidering the times he lived in, a very reſpectable author; beloved and honoured by Theodoric, and other Gothic monarchs. After paſſing through many high offices in the ſtate, he fixed upon his native city for the retreat of his old age; and, in compliance with the then reigning faſhion, took the habit of a monk, and ſpent the laſt years of his life in a cloiſter. In his letters to Maximus, he has left us many tokens of his attachment to Squillacce; and enlarges, with feeling and triumph, on its beauties and advantages. I walked to the mouth of the river Alleſi, where this patrician had made a reſervoir, or fiſhery, into which, by means of a canal, he introduced the ſea-water. But I could find no diſtinct

traces

A Plan of the City and Port of TARANTO,

anc. called TARENTUM, *in the Province of Otranto.*

Scale of two Miles.

MARE GRANDE

MARE PICCOLO

REFERENCES.

1. *City of Taranto*
2. *Fountain*
3. *Tower of Raymond Orsino*
4. *Citadel*
5. *Gate of Leue*
6. *Cathedral*
7. *Lamarina*
8. *Il Vasto, the ditch opened in 1755*
9. *Gate of Naples, and Bridge*
10. *Lazaretto*
11. *Capuchins*
12. *Aqueduct*
13. *Magazines*
14. *Pond*
15. *Old Aqueduct*
16. *Vale of Citrezze*
17. *Stream called by some, the Galesus*
18. *Il Ciardlo*
19. *Promontory of Penna*
20. *Point of Penne & old bridge*
21. *Le case*
22. *Canal of Levrano*
23. *Cervaro brook, & fulling Mill*
24. *Caves of Diulo*
25. *Il piano*
26. *Rasia brook & fulling Mill*
27. *La Paludarbara*
28. *Stream called Ponticello*
29. *Il fronte*
30. *Erto di Cicalone*
31. *La Salinella*
32. *Road of Trullo*
33. *Road to Montegranaro and ruined aqueduct*
34. *Supposed line of the walls of Tarentum*
35. *Pieschizuli*
36. *S. Maria Muriveta*
37. *Pizzone e Pieschi*
38. *Padri Parlette*
39. *Supposed line where Hannibal drew his Gallies over land*
40. *S. Lucia*
41. *Osservanti*
42. *Scialil*
43. *Fontanelle*
44. *Le statue*
45. *Orti Cardueci*
46. *Terziani*
47. *Alcanterini*
48. *Carmelitani*

traces of any ſuch work, which probably has been filled up by floods, or eaten away by the daſhing of the waves, during ſo long a period as one thouſand two hundred years.

In the evening, I was diſturbed by a violent noiſe; which, upon enquiry, I found was occaſioned by the Marquis's bailiff kicking furiouſly at the door of the neighbouring houſe. This is the uſual method of giving the laſt ſummons, without any farther hope of mercy, to a debtor or tenant that refuſes to pay, and ſhuts himſelf up in his houſe for ſafety. If the defaulter be a friend, and indulgence intended in the proſecution, the officer ſtrikes the door with his hand only. In any fray, if one of the combatants run away and lock himſelf up, and his adverſary beat for entrance with his feet, it is underſtood that he is incenſed beyond meaſure, and means to give no quarter: even children, in their little broils, obſerve the ſame diſtinction. This explains Horace's meaning *, when he ſays, that Death beats with impartial foot the doors of palaces and of cottages: he thereby implies, that he is inexorably bent on exacting the debt of nature, and not, as ſome commentators ſuppoſe, that he makes uſe of the foot, merely becauſe his hands are employed in holding the ſcythe and hour-glaſs.

Other alluſions in that Poet may be elucidated by reference to cuſtoms ſtill in force throughout Calabria.

* Pallida mors æquo pulſat pede pauperum tabernas
Regumque turres.——

His account of the hardy education and filial obedience of the Roman youth *, in former times, is ſtill exact with reſpect to the young Calabrian peaſant. After hoeing the ground all day, with no better fare than bread and water, ſeaſoned with a clove of garlic, an onion, or a few dried olives, he does not preſume to preſent himſelf before his mother, without a faggot of lentiſcus, or other wood, which he throws down at the door, ere he offers to paſs the threſhold. A wiſe adminiſtration, under an ambitious monarch, might train up this race to be once more the conquerors of nations. Patience under penury, hardſhip, and hunger,—ſymmetry and ſtrength of limb, and an ardent, fierce ſpirit, ſtill exiſt in the mountains of the kingdom; but it would require a very fortunate combination of circumſtances, with great judgment and reſolution, to bring theſe qualities properly into action.

Horace's animated deſcription of a mother longing for the return of her ſon †, may ſtill be applied to the Calabrian matrons. If the feluccas do not appear at the uſual

* ——Ruſticorum maſcula militum
Proles, Sabellis docta ligonibus
Verſare glebas, et ſeveræ
Matris ad arbitrium reciſos
Portare fuſtes.——

† Ut mater juvenem, quem Notus invido
Flatu Carpathii trans maris æquora
Cunctantem ſpatio longiùs annuo
Dulci diſtinet a domo,
Votis omnibus hunc et precibus vocat,
Curvo nec faciem littore demovet.——

term

term of their annual voyage, the mothers and wives of the ſailors offer up inceſſant vows and prayers, call upon the beloved perſon by name, and remain at their windows, with eyes fixed on the Cape which the bark is to double. The inſtant a boat is ſeen coming round the Point, the whole town reſounds with joyful cries of "Barca, Barca!" The boys ring the bells, and, as ſoon as they can diſtinguiſh what felucca it is, run to the relations, to claim beverage for the good news.

Dionyſius of Syracuſe, in hopes of diſuniting the confederates of Magna Græcia, attempted to build a wall or rampire acroſs the iſthmus; but troubles in Sicily called him away before he could complete the work.

We paſſed below Stellati, a town of one thouſand two-hundred ſouls, on a hill compoſed of pebbles and mineral particles, glued together by a viſcous earth:—it contains ſome fine ſpecimens of marcaſites. As we advanced ſouthward, the country fell off in beauty, and the ſoil in richneſs, from a mellow loam to a poor blue clay. The cotton fields have not the wholeſome appearance of thoſe farther north. The landſcape, however, revives near the banks of the Calipari or Eloris, where Dionyſius defeated the allied Greeks. We ſlept at Monaſterace, a poor village on an eminence. The road to it was good, except near the torrents, which, in great numbers, roll down from the mountains, and tear the plain to pieces. The deſolate aſpect of the country may be aſcribed at leaſt as

much to the ſcarcity of cultivators, as to the badneſs of the ſoil.

On the ſeventeenth, we came to Gerace, through a very unpleaſant tract of land along the coaſt. A bare, ugly ridge of hills cloſes in the plain on the weſt, and frequently comes quite down to the beach. We croſſed innumerable ſtreams, the banks of which were no doubt marked, in ancient times, by many a bloody encounter between Greeks and barbarians, or between the different Grecian ſtates, who were continually undermining their common fabric by inteſtine diſſentions. It is now very difficult to aſcertain the preciſe poſition of ancient rivers and towns; but it might certainly be accompliſhed with more accuracy than has yet been done by any geographer whatever.

We left Stilo on our right, remarkable for a rich convent of Carthuſians; an Order which, in its very infancy, ſtruck a good root in this kingdom, by the favour of Roger, the great Earl of Sicily, a very particular friend of their founder St. Bruno. Theſe roots ſpread vigorouſly, and grew to an enormous ſize, as to riches and extent of poſſeſſions; but the ſpirit of the times threatens them with a ſpeedy lopping, if not a total eradication. Not far from this place is a mine of iron, now quite abandoned.

On our left was Cape di Stilo, a promontory which, with Cape Spartivento, forms the bay of Locri. Caſtelvetere, in a lofty ſituation, three miles from the ſea, occupies the ſite of Caulon, of which ſome veſtiges are ſaid to exiſt.

exiſt. I ſaw none that have any claim to ſuch remote antiquity.—Caulon was one of the earlieſt Greek ſettlements, as its coins evince, being incuſi; which was undoubtedly a mode of coining of very ancient date *. This city was demoliſhed, and its inhabitants removed to Sicily, by Dionyſius, four hundred years before the Chriſtian æra. Nearer the ſea is La Roccella, a fief of the Caraffa family †,

* Nummi Caulonorum.

ARG. 1. Figura virilis nuda diadem. ſtans d. ſupra caput elatâ telum vibraturâ l. extensâ, cui ſuperſtat icuncula genuflexa; ſubtus cervus KAYΛO.=Incuſſus.

2. Eadem figura, &c. ſine epig.=Cervus. laurus. ſup. dorſum ΛYAX.

3. Vir nud. fulmin. l. monilia ten. ⌖=Cervus KAYΛONIATAN.

4. Vir fulm. cervulus KAY.=Cervus. vas. Φ. KAYΛONIAT.

5. Cervus. ramus KAY.=Vir fulm. cervulus KAYΛO.

6. Vir fulm. cervulus. KAYΛ.=Cervus. arbor ΛYAX.

† This family came originally from the Caraccioli, and is equal to any in the realm in riches and conſideration. It is divided into two branches; one of which gives a ſteelyard for its badge; the other, a buſh of thorns. The laſt emblem was adopted in conſequence of a tournament held by Charles the Second, in the ſuburbs of Naples. The ſon of that Prince, who was King of Hungary, took great offence at the Caraffas, for giving a ſhield barry, argent and gules, which are the Hungarian coat of arms; and inſiſted upon their being excluded the liſts, unleſs they altered their bearing. To obviate all difficulties, the knights of this family cut ſome branches out of a hedge, and tied them acroſs their bucklers; a diſtinction which has been kept up by their deſcendants. Antonio Caraffa, ſurnamed Malizia, made himſelf very conſpicuous as a politician, in the reign of Joan the Second. In 1680, Gregory was elected Grand Maſter of Malta. But the Caraffa that made the greateſt noiſe in the world, was Pope Paul the Fourth; one of the moſt turbulent, haughty prieſts, that ever aſcended the chair of St. Peter ſince the days of Gregory the Seventh, that famous trampler on all pretenſions of kings, and liberties of people. Paul and his nephews were, during the courſe of a few years, the diſturbers of Europe, and continually employed in exciting ſovereigns and ſubjects to ſome bloody and fanatical act of violence. At his death, he was declared an enemy to Rome; and all his ſtatues and coats of arms were broken and thrown into the Tyber.

built on a rugged eminence overgrown with the Opuntia, or African fig. The natives eat the fruit, and plant out the ſlips as a fence to their gardens.

No author has clearly determined the ſituation of the river Sagra ſo renowned for the defeat of the Crotoniates by a handful of Locrians. Thoſe who take it to be the Alaro, ſeem to come neareſt the truth.

SECTION XLV.

GERACE is poorly built, on a hill of coarſe granite rocks and ſtiff clay; the road to it ſteep and difficult; the vale below is well cultivated, and yet does not produce corn enough to anſwer the demands of the Geracians, though their number amounts but to three thouſand. They make good wine, which has the valuable quality of recovering its flavour and ſpirit by proper keeping, long after it ſeems to have loſt both. This city is ſuppoſed, by moſt writers, to ſtand upon the identical ſite of Locri, the capital of the Epizephyrian Locrians. Some antiquaries place the old town nearer the ſea at Pagliapoli, where many ſcattered ruins ſtill remain. The brick materials with which they were built, pronounce them of a later period than the happy days of Magna Græcia. One large well-preſerved room diſtinguiſhes itſelf above the reſt, but no part has any inſcription, column, or ornament. I was at firſt inclined to think,

that

that Locri had been ſituated in the plain, which afforded greater conveniencies for buſineſs, and that the citadel had been built on the hill of Gerace; but as Strabo ſays expreſsly, that the city ſtood on the brow of a hill called Eſopis, the buildings along the ſhore can only have been ſuburbs, magazines, and habitations for fiſhermen. In thoſe early days of navigation, every angle of a coaſt, projecting rock, iſland, or river's mouth, conſtituted a port; and therefore we muſt not be ſurpriſed, if we are often at a loſs to diſcover any traces of the ancient harbours we read of. Locri had, no doubt, ſome ſafe retreat for gallies and row-boats, though nothing now appears but an open road. Without a few remarkable monuments to guide us, it is not eaſy to diſcover the true poſition of any ancient town on this coaſt. The difficulty ariſes from a progreſſive change of dwelling. Adventurers, on their firſt landing, provided for their ſecurity by ſeizing upon ſome elevated inacceſſible rock, where they could bid defiance to the natives, as well as to any ſtrangers that might venture to land on the coaſt. As ſoon as increaſe of numbers gave them ſufficient powers for an attempt to enrich themſelves by conqueſt or commerce, they deſcended from their mountainous faſtneſſes, and erected commodious cities in the fertile plains along the ſhore. The full tide of human proſperity laſts but a moment; and every ſtate, when once it has reached the higheſt point of glory and power, muſt, by the natural courſe of things, be hurried back with the ebb to its original obſcurity. This

viciſſitude was experienced by the Grecian cities of Italy. Deprived of liberty by the Romans, they ſoon ſaw the number of their citizens dwindle away; and then they found, that a too extenſive circuit of walls in an open country expoſed them to continual inſults by ſea and land. Unwholeſome vapours, the effects of depopulation and neglected huſbandry, completed their ruin; and the feeble remnants of their inhabitants retired for health and ſafety to the tops of the neighbouring mountains, where they built towns that reſembled aeries of birds of prey, rather than manſions of the human race. As peace and ſecurity return, as agriculture and trade meet with encouragement, we behold the inhabitants forſake their uſeleſs caſtles, and venture once more into the plains.

A colony from Locris in Greece founded the commonwealth of Locri in Italy, to which Zaleucus gave a code of laws, eſteemed by all the Greeks a maſter-piece of legiſlation. He was the firſt that committed his inſtitutions to writing, and fixed certain bounds to penalties and puniſhments, which, in all laws promulgated before his time, were left to the diſcretion of the judges. Like all the followers of Pythagoras, he ſupported the ſimplicity of his decrees by unalterable inflexibility, of which he is ſaid to have made his own family feel the effects, rather than derogate from the letter of the law. Jealous of innovation, he enacted, that whoever had a new law to propoſe, ſhould appear in the aſſembly of the people with a rope round his neck,

neck, to be ſtrangled immediately, if the propoſals were rejected. The Locrians entered into an alliance with the Sicilian tyrants, and received the younger Dionyſius into their city when he fled from Syracuſe. The villain repaid their hoſpitality with the blackeſt ingratitude. By artifice and force, he acquired an abſolute dominion over them, and exerciſed it in a brutal manner, by inſulting their wives and daughters, and plundering their property. Upon his departure for Sicily the Locrians vindicated their rights, and wreaked their vengeance on his wife and children. This commonwealth poſſeſſed an ample territory, and reſpectable force, in proportion to the reſt of the Greek ſtates; but after it was ſubdued by Rome, faded away like a plant wounded at the root, oppreſſed and ruined by the cruelty and avarice of its governors *.

I cannot

* Nummi Locrenſium.

AUR. 1. Caput Jovis laur. ΛOKPΩN.=Aquila leporem diſc. ΛOKPΩN.

ARG. 1. Cap. Jov. laur.=Aquila lep. diſc. ΛOKPΩN.

2. Fulmen-caduceus ΛOKPΩN.=Aquila lep. diſc.

3. Cap. imb. diad. tæda.=Aquila fulm. inſ. ramus. Ā. ΛOKPΩN.

4. Cap. barb. laur. Æ.=Figura ſtans ſtolata coron. impon. cap. figuræ urbis ſedent. ΛOKPΩN—PΩMA ΠIΣTIΣ.

5. Cap. Palladis gal. arcus ΛOKPΩN.=Pegaſus Λ.

ÆR. 1. Cap. Palladis gal.=Racemus ΛOKPΩN.

2. Caput mul. ſpica.=Pallas ſtans d. haſt. ſ. clypeum. cornuc. ſtella ΛOKPΩN.

3. Cap. Viril. laureat.=Pallas ſtans d. haſ. ſ. cly. A. ΛOKPΩN.

4. Cap. Pall. gal. ΛET.=Fig. mul. ſedens d. pat. ſ. ſceptium tripus ΛOKPΩN.

5. Cap. Pall. gal.=Pegaſus ΛOKPΩN.

6. Cap. Mul. diad.=Aquila fulm. inſ. corona ΛOKPΩN.

I cannot learn at what preciſe time the preſent name was given to the city, but as its Biſhop is called Hieracenſis in the eighth century, I ſuppoſe it became common about that period. Gerace was always a place of ſtrength. In the courſe of a family quarrel among the Norman Princes, Guiſcard was betrayed and taken as he attempted to ſurpriſe it; and had the Geracians been ſuffered to follow their inclinations, would have loſt his life; but Roger, though his enemy, reſcued him out of their hands, and by this ſignal ſervice regained his brother's friendſhip.

This was one of the numerous baronies laviſhed by Charles of Anjou on the Montforts. Under the Durazzian line, it was acquired by the Carraccioli, and is now held by the Grimaldi of Genoa, with the title of Prince.

In the evening I joined a crowd that was dragging a woman to church, in order to have the devil driven out of her by exorciſms. She was a middle-aged perſon, and ſeemed to be in very ſtrong convulſions, which every body preſent firmly believed to proceed from a demoniacal poſſeſſion. The prieſt refuſing to come, ſome of the aſſiſtants grew impatient, and pulled the woman about ſo very roughly, that

7. Cap. Jovis laur. ΔΙΟΣ.=Fulmen ΑΟΚΡΩΝ.
8. Cap. Pall. duo glob.=in coron. cornu. ΑΟ.
9. Cap. Cereris ſpic. coron. ſpica.=Pallas ſtans d. haſtam ſ. clyp. cornuc. ſtella. ΑΟΚΡΩΝ.
10. Capita Dioſcur. jugat.=Jupiter ſed. d. avem ſ. baculum. cornuc. ΑΟΚΡΩΝ.
11. Cap. Pall.=Fulmen ΑΟΚΡΩΝ.
12. Cap. vir. laur.=Mars ſtans d. haſt. ſ. clyp. ΑΟΚΡΩΝ.

Belzebub

Belzebub thought proper to decamp. The patient roſe up, and though confuſed and panting for breath, very ſoon recovered her ſenſes, and ran away full ſpeed to her own houſe. From which circumſtances I inferred, there was more roguery in her caſe than real diſorder.

All convulſions of the kind are attributed to aſſaults of malignant ſpirits. Near fifteen hundred women, pretending to be tormented by theſe imps, go up annually to Soriano, to be cured of the poſſeſſion by looking at a portrait of St. Dominick, ſent down as a preſent from the celeſtial gallery. By theſe pretexts, they obtain from their tyrannical ſpouſes leave to make this pleaſant pilgrimage, and a pair of holiday ſhoes, without which it would be highly diſreſpectful to preſent themſelves before the holy picture. A prieſt of that convent told me a ſtory of a female demoniac, who, after going through the uſual courſe of cure, was ſent to confeſs her ſins to him. As he was perfectly well acquainted with the common tricks, he ordered her to give him the true reaſon of her acting that farce, and threatened her, in caſe of obſtinacy, with a viſit from a real devil, who would torment her in good earneſt. The poor woman, terrified to death at the menace, frankly acknowledged, that having been married by her parents againſt her inclinations to a goatherd, who ſtank intolerably of his goats and cheeſes, ſhe abhorred his approach, and feigned poſſeſſion to avoid cohabiting with him. Having thus wormed the ſecret out of her, the prieſt, in hopes of alleviating her misfortune, ſent

for her huſband, and as he knew it would be in vain to attempt to argue him out of a belief of the devil's being in his wife, he planned a different mode of attack, and informed the ſimple fellow, that he had diſcovered what particular kind of ſpirit it was; that this dæmon was remarkable for an outrageous antipathy to goatherds, and that no exorciſms could prevent him from plaguing them. The poor man, whoſe firſt profeſſion had been gardening, and whoſe ſucceſs in the other line of buſineſs had not been very great, readily conſented to return to his old way of labour, if that would keep Satan out of his houſe. The friar procured a garden for him, and a chapman for his flock, and ſoon had the happineſs of ſeeing the married couple well ſettled, and perfectly ſatisfied with each other.

We rode next day twelve miles, through a diſagreeable low country, which, from the poorneſs of its clayey ſoil, and the bad look of its corn, may be pronounced unfavourable to the purpoſes of agriculture. The next ſix miles were over hills of wretched aſpect, compoſed of hungry clay laid upon beds of round pebbles, minerals, ſand, and ſhells cemented together. After a weary ride through execrable roads, we ſtopped at one of the worſt-looking villages I ever beheld. It is called Bianco, from the chalky hill it ſtands upon, and conſiſts of houſes built of ſtone and mud, covered with tufted boughs. The appearance of every thing about it was ſo dreary, the looks of the villagers ſo ſquallid, and the evening ſo ſtormy, that I was glad to remain in my

ſmoky crib, and comfort myſelf with ſome white-wine of a ſtrong body and flavour, though rather too great a degree of roughneſs. My quiet was diſturbed by the danger of my guide, whoſe hand was bitten by a viper, as he was climbing over an old wall. The ſymptoms were very quick and violent; but the landlord removed them by applying a red-hot iron to the wound, and thoroughly ſcarifying round it. He ſaid the coldneſs of the weather had benumbed the ſerpent, and rendered the venom leſs virulent than it would have been in a hot day. He mentioned a relation of his, whoſe head had ſwelled to a prodigious ſize from his having ſucked the place where a viper had bit one of his children; but the ſwelling went off with fomentations.

SECTION XLVI.

May 19th. WE deſcended the mountain at the hazard of our lives, by a miry narrow road, buttreſſed up with poſts, over which are laid wooden bridges that quiver with the preſſure even of a foot traveller. As it had rained very hard all night, our leader prudently preferred a longer way by the ſands, to a ſhort cut through the mountains. We croſſed the iſthmus of Cape Bruzzano, where the Locrians firſt landed, and remained four years before they moved northward. The low grounds are extremely rich in herbage, and produce ſpontaneouſly thick crops of ſainfoin,

ſainfoin, which are not turned to proper account; half the graſs is ſuffered to rot on the ground for want of cattle to conſume it. Oleander, and many other beautiful ſhrubs, line the banks of the torrents, near ſome of which I found roots of the Calamus Aromaticus, Acorus, or ſweet Flag, beſides many other rare plants; but in the hurry of a journey, which had not botany for its ſole object, their names have eſcaped my memory. I am confident a regular ſearch in theſe waſtes, would afford botanical obſervers a treaſure of curious and medicinal vegetables. I dined at Brancaleone, a ſmall village; and afterwards rode to examine Cape Spartivento, the moſt ſoutherly point of Italy. It is ſurrounded by ſmall iſlands, and numerous rocky ſhelves, on which the waves break with great fury as they are driven down the ſtreights. From this angle we ſtruck into the mountains; and after much fatigue reached the city of Bova, where a letter procured me a very polite reception from one of the Canons.

Bova is placed on the brow of a hill, and being out of the way of trade and thoroughfare, can boaſt of neither wealth nor agriculture. Moſt of the inhabitants are of Greek origin and rite. I do not mean that they can trace their pedigree up to the old republicans of Magna Græcia, for all ſuch filiations have been cut off, and confounded in the darkneſs of many revolving ages. Theſe people are of a much later importation, having emigrated from Albania only a few centuries ago. I was deſirous of obtaining every

poſſible information about them, and ſhall bring into one point of view all I have learned at different times concerning their hiſtory.

When we recollect, that a very large portion of the kingdom was once inhabited or governed by Greeks, and underſtand that the Grecian rite has been in force in many parts of it, and ſtill is ſo in ſome, we naturally incline to ſuppoſe a continued poſſeſſion, and the Greek church eſtabliſhed here by preſcription; but the fallacy of our concluſions will appear upon reflecting, that, when Chriſtianity began in Italy, ſcarce the ſmalleſt trace could be diſcovered of Grecian laws, cuſtoms, or language. Polybius, two hundred years before, ſpeaks of them as old or former eſtabliſhments. Cicero mentions them as being already obſolete; and we learn from Strabo, that except three cities which retained ſome faint idea of them, all the reſt of Magna Græcia was become completely Roman in tongue, habits, and juriſprudence. The inſcriptions found in the Neapolitan ſtate clearly prove it. If any veſtiges might be diſcerned during the reign of Auguſtus, they were certainly very ſoon after obliterated by the introduction of colonies, and a ſeries of domeſtic wars. From theſe premiſes it follows, that when a patriarch was eſtabliſhed at Conſtantinople, there exiſted no particular connexion between this country and Greece; but the Neapolitan provinces formed, with the reſt of Italy, part of the immediate juriſdiction of the Biſhop of Rome. They followed the Latin rite till the eighth century, when Leo Iſauricus

ricus compelled the ſubjects of his Italian dominions to renounce all obedience to the ſee of Rome, and join in communion with the Conſtantinopolitan patriarch. The Norman conquerors, through zeal and policy, reſtored this province to the Pope's authority, thereby the better to annihilate all union with the Greek intereſt. In the fifteenth century, almoſt every trace of the Greeks was loſt, except ſome faint traditions and reſemblances of cuſtoms, when the following ſeries of events brought a new colony into Italy.

George Caſtriot, Prince of Epire or Albany, better known among us by the name of Scanderbeg, the bulwark of Chriſtendom againſt the Turks, received a conſiderable and timely ſuccour from Alphonſus the Firſt. In return, he ten years afterwards, in 1460, croſſed the Adriatic, defeated John of Anjou, and eſtabliſhed Ferdinand the Firſt on the Neapolitan throne. That grateful King preſented him with many large fiefs, and invited the Epirotes to ſettle in his dominions. The death of Scanderbeg removed every obſtacle to the Turkiſh conqueſts, and John his ſon fled to Naples for refuge. He was received with open arms, lands were aſſigned to his followers, and exemption from taxes granted them, with many other privileges, of which ſome ſhadow ſtill remains. Theſe ſtrangers fixed their abode in various provinces, but chiefly in Calabria, from a proſpect of ſuperior advantages, by being under the protection of Irene Caſtriota, married to San Severino, Prince of Biſignano.

nano. The Albaneſe continued to come over ſo late as the reign of Charles the Fifth, and their numbers increaſed very ſenſibly. At preſent, they amount to a hundred thouſand at leaſt, diſperſed in a hundred villages or towns; but many of theſe ſettlements are wretchedly poor, and much decayed: thoſe in the neighbourhood of Bova remarkably ſo. The villagers carry corn, cheeſe, and cattle to Reggio; but that being a poor mart, has but ſmall demands, and little circulation of money. Their common language is Albaneſe. The men can ſpeak Calabreſe; but the women, who neither buy nor ſell, underſtand no tongue but their own, which they pronounce with great ſweetneſs of accent. This Albanian dialect is quite different from the modern Greek and Sclavonian languages, though they are ſpoken by all the nations round Albania. It is worthy of remark, that this jargon, which has been known in Europe upwards of a thouſand years, ſhould be ſo little attended to, that it ſtill remains without an alphabet, and many of its ſounds are not to be accurately expreſſed either by Latin or Greek letters. From this ſingularity we may infer, that it is a mixture of the dialects of thoſe Tartarian hordes that overran Macedonia and Greece in the eighth century; to which medley the intercourſe with Germans, Italians, and Cruſaders, has added a variety of foreign terms. The roots of this language are unconnected with thoſe of all other European ones, but it abounds with words borrowed from old and modern Greek, Latin, Sclavonian, Italian, French,

German, and, what is very extraordinary and paſt accounting for, many Engliſh terms employed in their native ſignification, with ſome variation in the declenſion and pronunciation *.

The Greek rite is now obſerved in the province of Coſenza alone, the Miniſtry and Biſhops having, by degrees, perſuaded or compelled the other Albaneſe to conform to the Roman liturgy and diſcipline. The Latin Dioceſans found it, no doubt, inconvenient to be charged with the direction of a foreign nation, of whoſe cuſtoms, language, and ceremonies they did not chooſe to confeſs their ignorance. Moreover, a total want of inſtruction had plunged the Epirotic coloniſts into ſuch a ſtate of barbariſm, that at laſt there was not a prieſt to be found among them, who knew Greek enough to perform divine ſervice in that language. To remedy theſe diſorders, and preſerve his native worſhip, Monſignor Rodatà, Librarian of the Vatican, prevailed upon Clement the Twelfth to found a college at

* Theſe words among others:

Aunt	Crab	Let	Rip
Boor	Door	Leg	Sea
Breeches	Dream	Lofty	Sheep
Breaſt	Feather	Loſe	Stir
Cow	Grumble	Milk	Sight
Cool	Gape	Muſhroom	Shame
Chimney	Hunt	Meal	Tickle
Chide	Hunger	Mud	Uncle
Cough	Knee	Open	Wood.
Can	Leave	Run	You.

This Catalogue was given me by D. Paſquale Baffi, an Albaneſe.

St. Bene-

St. Benedetto Ullano, in Upper Calabria, for the education of the young Greeks who wiſhed to dedicate themſelves to the ſervice of the church. He was himſelf conſecrated an Archbiſhop *in partibus*, and ſent to lay the firſt ſtone of this Italo-Greco-Corſinian ſeminary. Diplomas, immunities, and privileges were heaped upon the eſtabliſhment, the property and juriſdiction of many villages purchaſed for it, ſixteen thouſand crowns expended upon the buildings, and a thouſand ducats a year ſet apart for the proviſion of the Biſhop. He acts as preſident of the college; but in his epiſcopal powers is ſubordinate to the Latin Prelate of Biſignano, without whoſe licence he cannot confer orders on his ſtudents. There is, beſides, a pariſh-prieſt and a ſchoolmaſter. The reſt are boarders at twenty crowns a year. Two Dominican friars read lectures of moral philoſophy and ſcholaſtic divinity; but whenever they touch upon the five famous propoſitions in diſpute between the two churches, the zeal of their anceſtors breaks out in the ſcholars, who ſeldom hear them inforced without betraying ſome tokens of diſguſt. Rodatà died too ſoon for the good of his ſettlement;—abuſes crept in, and the temporal concerns of the houſe have, of late years, been egregiouſly miſmanaged.

Theſe Albaneſe are a quiet induſtrious people, and their women remarkable for regularity of conduct. In their dreſs they preſerve the coſtume of Illyricum, from whence their foreſathers came. The moſt beautiful women are

generally given in marriage to clergymen, and are exceedingly proud of their huſbands; for among them prieſthood is the higheſt nobility. When an eccleſiaſtic dies, his widow never enters into a ſecond engagement, becauſe none but a virgin can aſpire to the hand of a prieſt; and any other is beneath her acceptance.

SECTION XLVII.

FROM Bova I travelled thirty miles along the ſhore to Reggio. As ſoon as the morning miſts were diſpelled by the riſing ſun, I had a view of Sicily, where Ætna towered above all other mountains, with a ſlender line of ſmoke flying from its top in a horizontal direction, as far as the eye could reach. We breakfaſted at a farmer's houſe in a poor, but well-ſituated village, called Amendolia. Here we deſcended into the plain, and croſſed the river Alice, the ancient boundary of the Locrian ſtate. Immenſe quantities of anchovies frequent the mouth of this ſtream and the adjacent coaſt; it is therefore very likely, that either the fiſh derived its Latin name Halec* from the river, or the river was called after the fiſh. At Pentedattolo, a pretty village, I found the ſtate of agriculture much better than what I had hitherto ſeen in this province. The

* The Italian name of both is Alice.

ground is managed with more ſkill and neatneſs, and conſequently productive of greater crops. Its hemp is the beſt in Calabria. The hills that border upon theſe flats, conſiſt of chalk and clay, mixed with rocks, formed of ferruginous particles, talk, and ſmall pebbles. The farmers were buſy with their harveſt, but ſeemed to loſe much time from a ſcarcity of hands. Near Montebello, we paſſed over the laſt Point of the Apennines, at the Capo dell' Armi, where the mountainous ridge ſinks into the ſea, to riſe again on the Sicilian ſhore at Taormina, in an oblique line. The opinion which was generally held by the ancients, that Sicily was formerly part of Italy, torn from it by ſome violent concuſſion of the globe, has been rejected by Cluver and others, upon their not being able to trace any correſponding angles and congenerous ſtrata on the different ſides of the ſtreights. Their ill ſucceſs in this ſearch aroſe from their miſtaking the direction of of the mountains. They denied the original juncture, becauſe they found no traces of it between Capo dell' Armi and the heights behind Cape Peloro; but, upon a more accurate ſurvey, they would have diſcovered that the mountains of Taormina correſpond, in compoſition and ſhape, with the extremity of the Apennine, and that the high lands of Cape Vaticano point towards the eminences north of Meſſina.

The ſoil of this promontory is light, and the ſtone white, which is, no doubt, the origin of its Greek name, *Leucopetra*, white rock.—The aſpect of the country is wild, and bare of trees, but covered with lentiſcus, the common fuel of the neighbourhood.

neighbourhood. The face of the rocks is divided by narrow ſtreaks of pebbles inclining to the horizon. The road is excellent for horſes; the proſpects enchanting. The traveller has under his eye the beautiful Faro of Meſſina, and the fertile plains of Reggio, contraſted with a bold chain of mountains that ſtretches away to the north-eaſt. On deſcending to the weſt, we entered upon a ſcene utterly different from what I had been long accuſtomed to. Inſtead of hills and marſhy ſhores, with little population, or appearance of induſtry, I now came to a rich delicious garden, ſhaded by groves and avenues of poplars and mulberry-trees, divided by hedges of pomegranates, incloſing vineyards and orchards of orange, citron, and various other kinds of aromatic fruit. Vegetables of all ſorts abound under the ſhade of theſe perfumed plantations; but hemp is chiefly cultivated, as being the moſt lucrative, though its emanations are ſuppoſed to be pernicious. Copious ſtreams meander through theſe agreeable plains, and diſtribute life and vigour to every plant. On each ſide of the road are houſes erected for the accommodation of ſilk-worms, upon a particular plan of conſtruction. The windows are long, and not above ſix inches wide. This narrowneſs prevents too great a quantity of air being admitted at a time, which would overpower the tender inſects. When the eggs are on the point of being hatched, theſe holes are ſhut, and a moderate fire kept up in the rooms. The worms, as ſoon as they come out, are placed upon beds of reeds, and there fed

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with leaves of the mulberry-tree, which, in this diſtrict, is invariably of the red ſort. It is preferred to the white-fruited kind, as being a later ſhooter, and better adapted to the periods of the worm's life, which would be endangered from late changes of weather, if forced out of its ſhell at the time the white mulberry produces its leaves; beſides, it is the opinion of the ſilk-workers, that worms fed with the red mulberry, produce a more compact heavy ſilk, than thoſe that live upon the leaves of the white one. I am apt to think this a vulgar prejudice, unwarranted by experience, as the Chineſe, Piedmonteſe, and Languedocians prefer the white ſort. I was ſurpriſed to ſee the Calabreſe bring up their ſilk-worms ſo tenderly; for I ſhould have thought their climate warm and conſtant enough to allow them to leave the worms upon the trees, as they are treated in the ſouthern parts of China; but I was told, that many experiments had been made, without ſucceſs, to diſcover a method of preſerving them in the open air. In order to provide food for them in caſe of a blight among the mulberry-trees, other leaves have been tried, and bramble tops have been found the beſt ſuccedaneum. In the management of this produce, the Calabreſe are much inferior to the Tuſcans, who, though many degrees farther north, contrive to have two hatchings, or ſeaſons, in a year. Theſe ſilk-worm-houſes are the property of reputable families in Reggio, who furniſh rooms, leaves, eggs, and every neceſſary implement; take two-thirds of the profit, and leave the other for

the

the attendants. A ſucceſſion of eggs is imported from Leghorn, and other places, to renew the breed, and by frequent changes keep up the quality of the ſilk. Great care is requiſite to prevent lizards from entering theſe apartments. If they get in while the worms are employed in their functions or transformations, they will deſtroy great numbers, by running to and fro along the ſhelves.—The natural and powerful enemy of the lizard, is the large black ſnake ſo common in Italy. The ſight of one of them will ſcare away all lizards, and therefore is very agreeable and ſerviceable to the ſilk-dealers, who accept it as a happy omen, and ſcream out, *Good luck! good luck!* whenever they ſee one of theſe reptiles creep into their houſe. To ſecure a good ſilk year, they offer a part of the produce to the ſaint of the pariſh, who ſometimes gets a fifth ſhare from theſe zealots. Mariners, employed in exporting this commodity in barks, lay aſide a bale of ſilk for their particular patron; but if there fall any rain to ſpoil the cargo, the ſaint is ſuppoſed not to have fulfilled the reciprocal agreement, and accordingly loſes all claim to his portion.

All the pods muſt be carried to public caldrons at Reggio, and there pay a duty for boiling and winding off. As the winders work by the pound, they perform their taſk in a more ſlovenly, careleſs manner, than they would do were they paid by the day. After the ſilk is drawn off, forty-two grana and a half per pound are exacted, even though the owner ſhould keep it for his private uſe.

Nothing

Nothing can be more unfair than this tax, as the weight is ſet down while the merchandiſe is wet and heavy. The tyranny of exciſe is ſtill carried greater lengths, for the poor wretches are forced to pay one grana a pound for the refuſe and unprofitable pods, and two carlini a year for every mulberry-tree growing in their grounds. This odious, abſurd impoſition was planned, by the Marquis of Squillace, contrary to every wiſe principle of adminiſtration, and with many other vexations has checked this advantageous branch of commerce, diſcouraged the farmers, and cauſed hundreds of valuable trees to be cut down to ſave the duty. In general, the profits of the ſilk trade in this country centre in the Barons and Revenue-officers. The former by monopoly, and the latter by exactions, oblige the poor merchants to ſmuggle for a livelihood, and, to the great detriment of the royal receipt, the exciſemen find it their intereſt to connive at the practice.

SECTION XLVIII.

THE approach to Reggio is charming; for every cottage of the ſuburb is ſhaded with a beautiful arbour of vines, loaded with cluſters of grapes, that produce a very good ſort of wine.

Oranges, and their kindred fruits, arrive at great perfection in theſe plains, which are ſaid to be the firſt ſpot in

Italy where their culture was attempted, and from which it was extended over the country. They are found to be much hardier than was at firſt ſuſpected, many large plantations thriving at the foot of the Apennines, twenty miles from the ſea, where in winter there is often froſt enough to congeal water. The Rheggians carry on a lucrative traffic with the French and Genoeſe in eſſence of citron, orange, and bergamot. This ſpirit is extracted by paring off the rhind of the fruit with a broad knife, preſſing the peel between wooden pincers againſt a ſpunge; and, as ſoon as the ſpunge is ſaturated, the volatile liquor is ſqueezed into a phial, and ſold at fifteen carlines an ounce. The caput mortuum is eaten by oxen, and the pulp ſerves to make ſyrup. There is a ſmall ſort of citrons ſet apart for the Jews of Leghorn, who come every year to buy them for three torneſi a piece. As they are deſtined for ſome religious ceremonies, the buyers take great care not to pollute them by a touch of the naked hand.

The olives of Reggio are large and pulpy. They are much admired by thoſe who reliſh a high flavour; but to thoſe who have been accuſtomed only to eat the Provence ſort, they appear too ſtrong. The exportation of oil brings into Calabria-ultra half a million of ducats annually.

Before the Saracens were driven back to their original habitations on the Arabian and African ſands, the environs of this city were adorned with ſtately groves of palm-trees. Many of theſe trees were felled by the Chriſtians out of a whimſical

whimſical hatred to the plant, as if it had been an appurtenance of Mahometiſm. The Infidels themſelves, on their retreat, deſtroyed all the male-palms, except ſuch as grew within the walls. There are ſome trees ſtanding in the city which annually produce ſeveral pounds of dates; but moſt of them fall off before they ripen, and are eaten by the hogs. It has been remarked, that in ſeaſons wherein the Scirocco, or other ſoutherly winds blow for a long continuance, the dates ripen better and ſooner than uſual. Perhaps the great quantity of warm moiſture and duſt ſcattered over them by thoſe winds, reſolves the natural refractorineſs of the fruit, by cauſing an uncommon heat and fermentation. A ſimilar precocity is obſerved in figs growing near a duſty road. It is ſuppoſed that the ſprinkling of lees of oil would haſten the maturation both of figs and dates.

Figs here have a fine flavour; thoſe of Felugaſo and Mammola are the beſt. The gardeners of this province do not follow the Levantine method of caprification, which is performed by carrying an inſect from the wild tree to the cultivated one, in order to procure impregnation by the duſt or pollen that ſticks to the feet and body of the fly, as the wild fig alone bears male flowers: nor do they ripen this fruit as the Neapolitan cultivators do, by touching the eye of it with a feather dipt in oil. The Calabrian figs come on very well without theſe helps, though the wild plant, abounding every where, affords opportunity for

caprification, if required. When the Calabreſe are deſirous of raiſing fig-trees from ſeed, a method leſs in uſe than ſlipping, they gather a quantity of wild figs, ſtring them upon pack-thread, and hang them over the cultivated ones on the tree, till both are half-dried by the ſun. In October they ſplit the garden fruit, and rub it very hard upon a rope. When the rope is covered with ſeeds, they bury it a few inches under ground; and in a ſhort time a plentiful crop of ſeedlings appears, which muſt be grafted, as they are all wild, or at leaſt of a mongrel breed.

The firſt Platanus ever ſeen in Italy was brought from Sicily by Dionyſius the tyrant, and planted in his garden at Reggio. The Muſa and Ananas grow very well out of doors here. The Prince of Scilla was, I believe, the firſt in this part of the world that cultivated the pine-apple. He treated it in the beginning with great charineſs and precaution; but, upon trial, found a bolder management ſuit it better.

The hills, that ſkirt the great chain of mountains, abound with cheſnut-trees, producing very large and ſweet fruit, which the inhabitants dry, grind, knead into a paſte, and uſe in lieu of bread.

Between Reggio and Scilla a ſilver mine was opened by the preſent King of Spain; but the vein lying in a granite rock that dips conſiderably towards the ſea, as if dragged down by the ſinking of the ſtreights, was not ſufficient to cover the expences, and therefore abandoned. I believe this

this bad ſucceſs may alſo be attributed to the unſkilfulneſs and lazineſs of the miners. Large quantities of ore were ſtolen, and at laſt all the works deſtroyed, by the negligence of the overſeers, who left the furnaces lighted when they went away. The buildings took fire, and were entirely conſumed; and the whole ſtock reduced, by the violence and continuance of the flames, to a ſtate of vitrification or calcination.

Reggio can boaſt of neither beautiful buildings nor ſtrong fortifications. Of its edifices the Gothic cathedral is the only ſtriking one; but it affords nothing curious in architecture. The citadel is far from formidable, according to the preſent ſyſtem of tactics; nor could the city walls make a long reſiſtance againſt any enemy but Barbary corſairs:—and even theſe they have not always been able to repel; for, in 1543, it was laid in aſhes by Barbaroſſa; Muſtapha ſacked it fifteen years after; and the deſolation was renewed in 1593, by another ſet of Turks. Its expoſed ſituation, on the very threſhold of Italy, and fronting Sicily, has, from the earlieſt period, rendered it liable to attacks and devaſtation. The Chalcidians ſeized upon it; or, according to the uſual Greek phraſe, founded it, and called the colony Rhegion, from a word that means a break or crack; alluſive of its poſition on the point where Sicily broke off from the continent. Anaxilas oppreſſed its liberties. Dionyſius the Elder took it, and put many of the principal citizens to death, in revenge for their having

refuſed his alliance. The Campanian legion, ſent to protect the Rhegians, turned its ſword againſt them, maſſacred many inhabitants, and tyrannized over the remainder; till the Roman ſenate thought proper to puniſh theſe traitors with exemplary ſeverity, though at the ſame time it entered into league with the revolted garriſon of Meſſina. This union with a ſet of villains, guilty of the ſame crime, proved that no love of juſtice, but political reaſons alone, drew down its vengeance on the Campanians *.

I en-

* Nummi Rheginorum.

ARG. 1. Facies leonis=Fig. vir. ſed. in cor. ONIƆƎЯ.
2. Fac. leo.=Cap. mul. laur. PHΓINΩN.
3. Fac. leo.=Cap. vitulinum. RECINON.
4. Fac. leo.=Flos PH.

ÆR. 1. Cap. mul. averſa modio coron.=Jupiter ſed. d. haſt. tripus PHΓINΩN.
2. Cap. Jovis laur.=Mulier ſtans d. patera ſerpentem paſcit. III. PHΓIN.
3. Cap. Dianæ=Fig. vir. ſtan. in brach. avem. d. ramum. ſ. baculum. cornucop. PHΓINΩN.
4. Cap. Dia.=Leo gradiens PHΓINΩN.
5. Cap. Apoll. laur.=Tripus PHΓINΩN.
6. Cap. Apoll. & Dian Jug.=Tripus PHΓINΩN.
7. Cap. Dian. Ꝑ.=Tripus PHΓINΩN.
8. Cap. Dian.=Lyra PHΓINΩN.
9. Fac. leonis=Lyra. luna PHΓINΩN.
10. Fac. leon.=Tripus PHΓINΩN.
11. Cap. Pall. gal. gryps in gal.=Minerva ſtans d. Victoriam. ſ. haſt. & clyp. fulmen Π. PHΓINΩN.
12. Cap. imb.=Fig. vir. nuda ſed. d. ſagittam ſ. arcum. Π. PHΓINΩN.
13. Cap. Apoll. K. PHΓINΩN=Leon. facies.
14. Cap. Apoll.=Vir nud. ſtans d. ramum ſup. tripod. ſ. haſtam.
15. Cap. viril. Jugata=Vir ſtans avem d. arborem ſ. PHΓINΩN.

16. Cap.

I enjoyed ſeveral delightful walks along the beach. Wherever a hole is made in the ſands, though within a foot of the ſea, freſh water bubbles up. The views on every ſide are enchanting, equal to the charming ones of the Neapolitan gulf, and ſuperior to all others that I have ever ſeen. Meſſina riſes out of the waves like a grand amphitheatre; and the Faro, lined with villages and towns, ſeems a noble river, winding between two bold ſhores.

Sometimes, but rarely, it exhibits a very curious phænomenon, vulgarly called *La Fata Morgana* *. The philoſophical reader will find its cauſes and operations learnedly accounted for in Kircher, Minaſi, and other authors. I ſhall only give a deſcription of its appearance, from one that was an eye-witneſs. Father Angelucci is the firſt that mentions it with any degree of accuracy, in the following terms:

"On

16. Cap. Jug. Dioſcura=Mercurius ſtans d. ramum. ſ. caduc. III. PHΓINΩN.
17. Cap. Jug. Dioſcur.=Vir nud. ſtans d. avem & ramum. ſ. arborem. IIII. PHΓINΩN.
18. Cap. vir. laur. idolum PHΓINΩN.=Cap. vir. laur. clava. PHΓINΩN.
19. Cap. Jug. Apoll. & Dianæ=Mul. ſtol. ſtans d. duas ſpicas ſ. bacul. luna. IIII. PHΓINΩN.
20. Fac. leon.=Corona RECI.
21. Fac. leon.=RECINON.

* The name is probably derived from an opinion, that the whole ſpectacle is produced by a Fairy or a Magician. The populace are delighted whenever the viſion appears, and run about the ſtreets, ſhouting for joy,—calling every body out to partake of the glorious ſight.

" On the fifteenth of Auguſt, 1643, as I ſtood at my " window, I was ſurpriſed with a moſt wonderful, delect- " able viſion. The ſea that waſhes the Sicilian ſhore " ſwelled up, and became, for ten miles in length, like a " chain of dark mountains; while the waters near our " Calabrian coaſt grew quite ſmooth, and in an inſtant " appeared as one clear poliſhed mirror, reclining againſt " the aforeſaid ridge. On this glaſs was depicted, in " *chiaro ſcuro*, a ſtring of ſeveral thouſands of pilaſters, all " equal in altitude, diſtance, and degree of light and ſhade. " In a moment they loſt half their height, and bent into " arcades, like Roman aqueducts. A long cornice was " next formed on the top, and above it roſe caſtles innu- " merable, all perfectly alike. Theſe ſoon ſplit into " towers, which were ſhortly after loſt in colonnades, then " windows, and at laſt ended in pines, cypreſſes, and " other trees, even and ſimilar. This is the *Fata Mor-* " *gana*, which, for twenty-ſix years, I had thought a mere " fable."

To produce this pleaſing deception, many circumſtances muſt concur, which are not known to exiſt in any other ſituation. The ſpectator muſt ſtand with his back to the eaſt, in ſome elevated place behind the city, that he may command a view of the whole bay; beyond which the mountains of Meſſina riſe like a wall, and darken the back-ground of the picture. The winds muſt be huſhed; the ſurface quite ſmoothed; the tide at its height; and the

waters

waters preſſed up by currents to a great elevation in the middle of the channel. All theſe events coinciding, as ſoon as the ſun ſurmounts the eaſtern hills behind Reggio, and riſes high enough to form an angle of forty-five degrees on the water before the city,—every object exiſting or moving at Reggio will be repeated a thouſand fold upon this marine looking-glaſs; which, by its tremulous motion, is, as it were, cut into facets. Each image will paſs rapidly off in ſucceſſion, as the day advances, and the ſtream carries down the wave on which it appeared.

Thus the parts of this moving picture will vaniſh in the twinkling of an eye. Sometimes the air is at that moment ſo impregnated with vapours, and undiſturbed by winds, as to reflect objects in a kind of aërial ſcreen, riſing about thirty feet above the level of the ſea. In cloudy, heavy weather, they are drawn on the ſurface of the water, bordered with fine priſmatical colours.

JOURNEY

FROM

REGGIO TO NAPLES.

SECTION XLIX.

THE heat I had experienced in Calabria determined me to defer my voyage to Sicily till the enſuing winter. I therefore took my paſſage for Gallipoli in a French ſhip ready to ſail from the Straits; and on the twenty-ſecond, about ſunſet, we got under way. A heavy Scirocco, that roſe in the night off Cape Spartivento, rendered the paſſage unpleaſant; but carried us briſkly and ſafely to our deſtined port, where we arrived on the twenty-fifth.

Gallipoli ſtands on a rocky iſland, joined to the Continent by a bridge, near which flows a fountain of very pure

pure water. From the remoteſt antiquity this was a ſtation ſo favourable to commerce, that every maritime power wiſhed to ſecure it; and it is certainly a reproach to Government, that nothing has been done to improve its natural advantages:—at preſent it has neither harbour nor ſhelter for ſhipping. Charles the Second demoliſhed Gallipoli, for its adherence to Frederick of Aragon. The Venetians treated it with great cruelty in the fifteenth century; and, in 1481, it was pillaged by the Turks. To preſerve it from future calamities, Charles the Fifth repaired and ſtrengthened its fortifications; and, ſince that period, it has enjoyed the benefits of peace and trade, which have rendered it the moſt opulent and gayeſt town upon the coaſt. Its inhabitants do not exceed ſix thouſand in number; but they are eaſy in their circumſtances, lively, and merry, and in general well-informed. Conſumptions and ſpitting of blood are rather frequent here, occaſioned by the great ſubtilty of the air, which is ventilated from every quarter. The buildings are tolerable, and ſome of the churches have good paintings.

The cotton trade brings in about thirty thouſand ducats a-year. Good muſlins, cotton ſtockings, and other parts of apparel, are manufactured here, and purchaſed by the Provençals; for Gallipoli has no direct trade with the metropolis. Silk and ſaffron were formerly objects of traffic; but heavy duties and oppreſſion have cauſed them to be abandoned. The wine of this territory is good; but

from dryneſs of climate, and ſhallowneſs of ſoil, the vintage frequently fails in quantity; and then the Gallipolitans have recourſe to Sicily for a ſupply. Oil is the great ſupport of this place:—two-thirds of the produce of its olive plantations are exported to France, and the north of Italy; the remainder is ſent to Naples, and other ports of the kingdom. It appears by the books of the Cuſtom-houſe, that in 1766*, eleven thouſand four hundred and fifty-nine ſalme were ſhipped off for national markets, and thirty-five thouſand four hundred and ninety-three ſalme for foreign ones. This quantity cannot be valued at leſs than a million of ducats; but the profits to the venders are much curtailed by a duty on exportation.

Neapolitan merchants, by means of agents ſettled at Gallipoli, buy up the oils, from year to year, long before an olive appears upon the tree. The price is afterwards ſettled by public authority; a mode of evaluation extremely favourable to the traders, and prejudicial to the land-owner, who is attached to the ſoil, and indeed ſeldom conſidered by Government. The Neapolitans ſell their oil to the merchants of Leghorn; and, if faithfully ſerved by their factors in Terra di Otranto, ought to double their capital

* I fix upon 1766, as being the year mentioned in Reideſel's evaluation, which I have good authority for correcting. His accounts are, one thouſand three hundred and ninety-five laſts, or thirteen thouſand nine hundred and fifty ſalme, for home trade; and ſeventeen thouſand three hundred and twenty-three laſts, or one hundred ſeventy-three thouſand two hundred and thirty ſalme, for foreign countries.

in

in two years. But, to balance this advantage, they run great riſks, pay exorbitant intereſt, and have frequent bankruptcies to guard againſt.

About three miles due weſt, is a ſmall iſland, level with the water, almoſt barren. Wherever the ſoil is deep enough, it produces ſhort graſs, renowned for giving a moſt exquiſite flavour to mutton. This rock is a very convenient ſtation for fiſhing, and is reſorted to by flocks of ſea-fowl.

On the twenty-ſeventh, I ſet out for Naples; making a little deviation from the direct road, to ſee Nardo and Otranto. Near Gallipoli, cultivation is in a flouriſhing ſtate; though the rocks are very ſhallowly covered with earth. In this province, the rent of arable ground varies prodigiouſly; rather according to the degrees of population than thoſe of fertility. For example,—Brindiſi poſſeſſes a ſpacious territory, rich in ſoil and natural advantages, free from baronial tenures and burthens: yet the beſt of its land does not let at ten ſhillings an acre; while the rocky but well-peopled Salentine peninſula, hampered as it is with feudal claims and drawbacks, gives at leaſt double the rent.

The olive-tree is here attended to with the niceſt care, and no trouble ſpared to increaſe its fruitfulneſs, or revive prolific vigour in plants that begin to feel the decay of age. In winter, the peaſants bare the roots of the old trees, lay upon them a thin coat of litter, and leave them thus,

during

during four months, to imbibe the reſtorative ſalts of the atmoſphere. Few of them have any principal bole; for all predominant ſhoots are early cut out, that every part may derive equal benefit from the influence of the ſun. Some huſbandmen only ſtir the earth near the tree; others plough all the interſtices, and raiſe profitable crops, though perhaps to the detriment of the olive plants. In this province, the fruit is neither beaten off the tree, nor gathered; but remains till it falls through ripeneſs.

Don Giovanni Preſta has proved himſelf a zealous and valuable citizen of Gallipoli, by a long and attentive courſe of experiments upon the olive-tree, its fruit, and the method of making oil, with a view of increaſing its quantity, and improving its quality. The common mode of making oil, is to cruſh the olives to a paſte, with a perpendicular mill-ſtone running round a trough. This paſte is put into flat round baſkets, made of ruſhes, piled one upon another under the preſs. After a firſt preſſure, ſcalding water is poured into each baſket, its contents ſtirred up, and the operation repeated till no more oil can be ſkimmed off the ſurface of the tubs beneath. This method is liable to inconveniences; for the oil is ſeldom pure—keeps ill—and ſoon grows rancid. Don Giovanni employs other ways of extracting the liquor, which, though ſeemingly leſs effectual and more laborious, he thinks practice will prove to be full as expeditious as the mill, and much more advantageous to the vender, by the goodneſs of

the oil. He recommends a proceſs, performed by pounding the fruit in a mortar. He throws a handful of the cruſhed ſubſtance into a long woollen bag, which he rubs very hard upon a ſloping board; he then wrings it; afterwards adds hot water, and continues to preſs, as long as a drop of oil can be drawn from it. This he ſuppoſes to have been the original mode of extraction, adopted by the diſcoverers of oil; and, if performed by a ſkilful, ſtout workman, to be much more effectual than the common one. He has examined the different ſpecies of olive-trees planted in his country, and appreciated their reſpective merits. The kind moſt commonly cultivated, and of oldeſt ſtanding in the province, is by him called the Salentine Olive,—by the peaſant, Ogliarola,—from the quantity of juice yielded by its fruit. A ſecond ſort, vulgarly named Faule, of which only a few are planted, bears a ſmall olive kept for eating. The third is known by the names of Cellina, Scuraneſe, and Caſcia:—its olives give leſs oil than the Salentine kind, in a proportion of two to three; but the tree grows to a greater ſize, reſiſts weather better, and is alſo more fruitful, —for which reaſon it obtains the preference among the planters. He tried alſo a fourth ſpecies; but of which only one tree exiſts in his neighbourhood, and that a wild one. Contrary to the nature of all other olives, its fruit grows white as it ripens:—the ancients ſpeak of ſuch a kind. He has alſo procured ſcions of the beſt ſtocks from Tuſcany. I am ſorry to add, that as yet his efforts have been merely

ſpeculative,

ſpeculative, for want of encouragement from thoſe who alone can promote the public good to any extent. In Puglia, which abounds with cities and villages belonging to the Crown, and therefore more wealthy and independent than Baronial manors,—theſe trials may excite emulation, augment the cultivation of this valuable tree, and improve the manner of making oil, to the great emolument of King, planter, and merchant. I have little doubt but, with ſkill, the olives of this province may be made to give as fine oil as thoſe of either Provence or Lucca. In Calabria the caſe is more deſperate;—there feudal tyranny reigns paramount, and effectually clips the wings of induſtry:—there the cuſtom of the manor obliges all vaſſals to grind their olives at the lord's mills *, though their number is not equal to the buſineſs. The unfortunate wretches behold their fruit rot, and their oil evaporate from the fermenting heaps, while they muſt wait the preſſing of the olives belonging to the Baron and his leſſees, or to ſuch proprietors as can afford to bribe the millers.

At the diſtance of a few miles from the town, there is a good deal of woodland, where ſportſmen find very good diverſion. Gentlemen hunt hare, fox, and ſometimes wild boar, with hounds or lurchers, and ſometimes with both. In autumn, fowlers uſe nets, ſpringes, or birdlime; in winter, guns. All the country is free to whoever buys

* They pay for every grinding, or Macina, two carlini. A Macina conſiſts of eight baſkets, of thirty Neapolitan rotoli each.

the King's licence, except ſome few incloſures, where the Barons endeavour to preſerve the game. Hawking has of late years been quite laid aſide.

SECTION L.

NARDO lies nine miles north of Gallipoli; the road to it good and pleaſant, with a fine view of the ſea. In this little city are eight thouſand inhabitants. The ſteeple of its cathedral is built in a very uncommon, but ſhewy ſtile of Gothic architecture. Luca Giordano and Solimeni have adorned the church with ſome agreeable paintings. This place was part of the Balzo eſtate. The Aquavivas were the next poſſeſſors:—they are thought to have come from the Marca di Ancona. In 1401, in conſideration of their relationſhip to Pope Boniface the Ninth, Ladiſlaus erected their manor of Atri into a dukedom; an honour till then ſeldom granted to any but princes of the blood royal *. Claudius Aquaviva, a famous general of the Jeſuits, who died in 1615, was of this family.

* Since that period, honours have been ſo laviſhly beſtowed, that, about the beginning of the laſt century, the ſingle kingdom of Naples reckoned fifty Princes, ſixty-three Dukes, one hundred and ſix Marquiſſes, and ſixty Earls; beſides Barons, who all held of the Crown *in capite*, and took their titles from their fiefs.—In 1703, the numbers were, one hundred and twenty-four Princes, two hundred Dukes, two hundred Marquiſſes, and forty-three Earls.

The breadth of the peninſula, from Nardo, is about thirty-five miles: the road through an open country, interſperſed with ſome coppices of a ſmall jagged-leaved oak. We paſſed near many villages; but I ſaw nothing in any of them worth my attention. As we approached the Adriatic, the landſcape grew dreary, from the great quantity of looſe ſtone walls, by which the fields are divided. Near Otranto, the gardens, being full of orange-trees, have a more pleaſing appearance. A rivulet, running into the ſea, cloſe to the walls, ſtill retains its ancient name of Hydro.

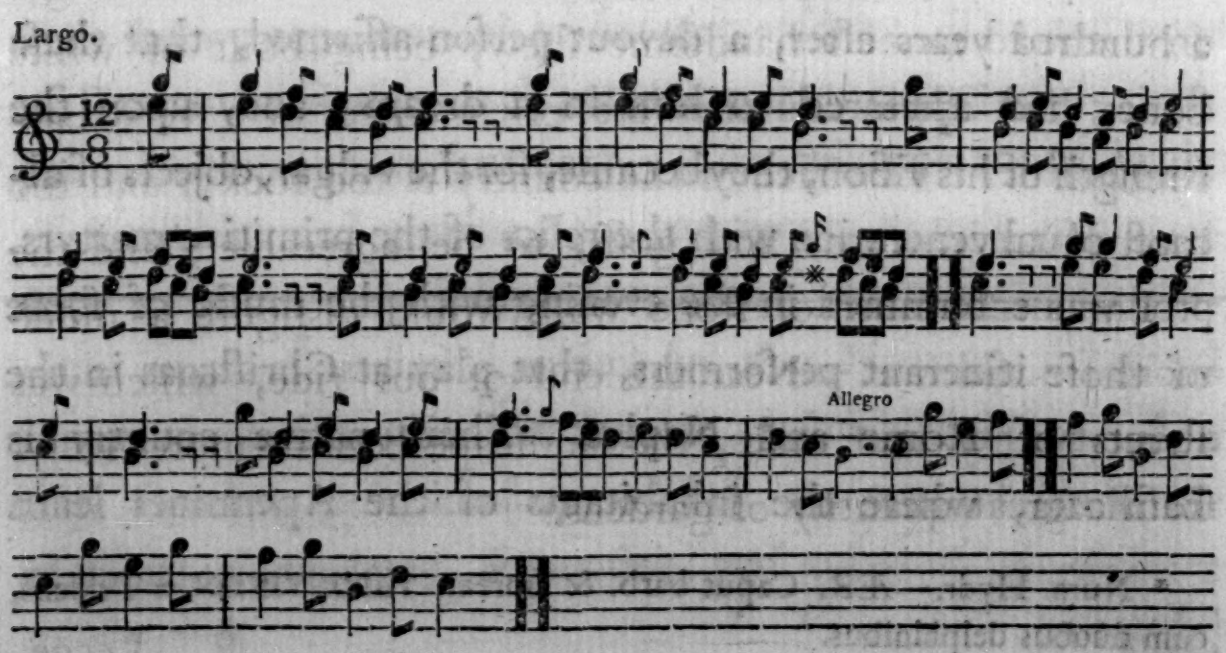
Otranto is ſmall, ſtands on a hill, and contains only three thouſand inhabitants. Its little harbour is not ſo bad, but it might induce more people to ſettle here; as no port on the coaſt lies ſo convenient for traffic with Greece. The Adriatic Gulph is here but ſixty miles wide. I climbed to the top of a tower, to get a ſight of the Acroceraunian Mountains; but a vapour hanging over the ſea, along the horizon, hid them from my view: in a clear morning, their ſnowy tops are ſaid to be very viſible. The cathedral of Otranto is Gothic, and, according to the Puglian faſhion, has its ſubterraneous ſanctuary. The columns are of beautiful marbles and granite; the pavement, a rude ſpecies of Moſaic, commonly called Saracenic. As it is to be met with in all churches founded by the Norman Kings of Sicily, the artiſts who laid it were probably Saracens, or at leaſt Greeks, their ſcholars.—Theſe moſaics are compoſed of pieces of porphyry, ſerpentine, and cubes of gilt glaſs,—

diſpoſed in ſtars, circles, or checquers. The compartments of the ſtalls are bordered with them; and the ſmall twiſted columns, which ſupport the pulpits and canopies, are ornamented with a ſpiral ſtripe of the ſame work. It is a pity ſo much durability, compactneſs, and beauty of materials, ſhould have been laviſhed on ſuch barbarous deſigns.—Otranto was a Roman colony, as is certified by an inſcription, almoſt the only monument of antiquity left there*. In the tenth century, it was made an archbiſhop's ſee. In 1480, Laurence de Medici, to deliver himſelf from the attacks of the King of Naples, perſuaded Mahomet the Second to invade the realm; and Otranto was the unfortunate place where the Turks landed. It was inveſted, ſtormed and pillaged. Its Prelate was ſlain at the door of his church; eight hundred principal citizens dragged out of the gates, and butchered; their bodies left twelve months unburied, till the Duke of Calabria retook the city, and committed them to hallowed earth. About a hundred years after, a devout perſon affirmed, that theſe bones had appeared to him in a dream; and, upon the ſtrength of his viſion, they became, for the vulgar, objects of almoſt equal veneration with the relics of the primitive martyrs.

I was entertained in the evening with the muſic of ſome of thoſe itinerant performers, that play at Chriſtmas in the ſtreets of Rome and Naples. Their native country is Baſilicata, where the inhabitants of the Apennines learn

* Num. Hydr.—ÆR. Caput barb. & laureat. ΤΑΡΟΝΤΙΝΩΝ.= Tridens, cum duobus delphinibus.

from their infancy to wield the mattock with one hand, and the flageolet or bagpipe with the other. In theſe ſavages of Italy, muſic is not merely an art of paſtime or luxury, but a talent awakened by neceſſity. Their uſual employment is hoeing out drains, to draw the water off the land; but as there is not every year, nor in all ſeaſons, a ſuperabundance of rain, they take up their muſical inſtruments for a maintenance, and, in ſmall parties, travel over Italy, France, and Spain. Some have penetrated even into America, and returned from thence with great comparative riches, earned by their paſtoral melody. Their concerts are generally compoſed of two muſicians, who play on very long, large bagpipes, in uniſon :—I mean as to the tone, becauſe one is always an octave higher than the other; while a third muſician ſounds a kind of hautboy, and, at the end of each ritornel, chants a rural ditty, to which the bagpipes play an accompaniment. The airs are all nearly alike, upon the model of the following Paſtorale or Siciliana.



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The trifling differences depend upon a greater or leſſer vivacity in the performers, who are wont to embelliſh the common tune with variations, out of their own fancy. Every air, however, is compoſed of two characters: the ritornel is cheerful; the vocal part, ſlow and mournful. The inſtruments are all made by the ſhepherds themſelves, in thoſe forms and ſizes which tradition has handed down to them, and experience has taught them to imitate.

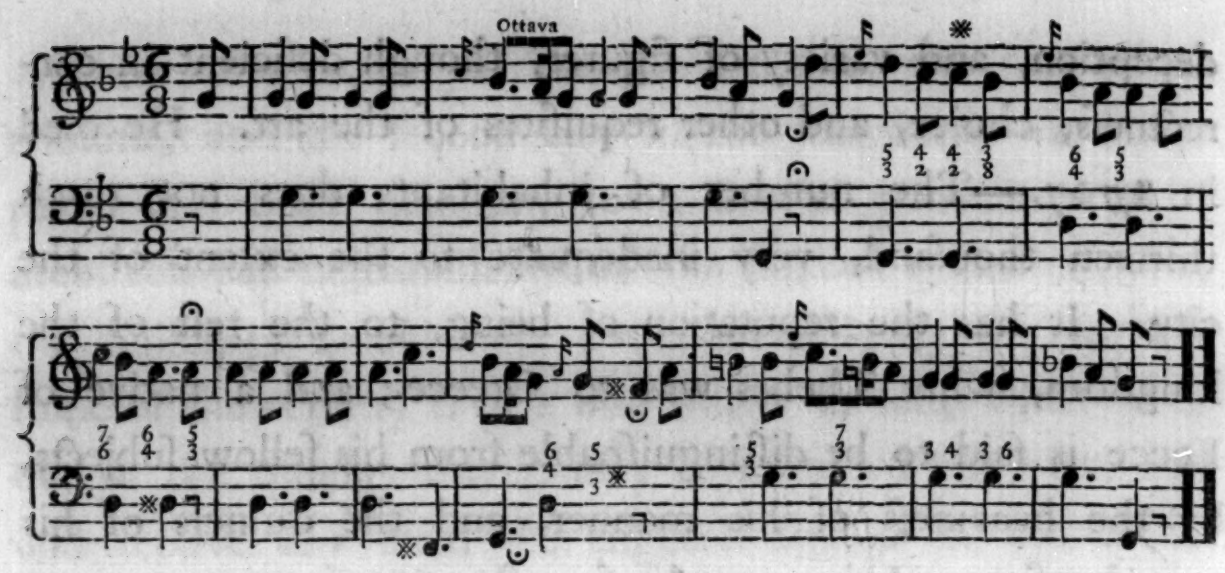
My route to Lecce lay by the ſide of a large pond, that communicates with the ſea. All around, for many miles, reigns one entire waſte, productive of nothing but the holme oak, or *ilex coccifera*. Theſe buſhes were in full beauty, covered with the ſcarlet kermes, or falſe cochineal, which abounds in the ſame ſort of country, in Andaluſia and Languedoc. The Puglians ſeem ignorant that any uſe can be made of this ſhrub, except feeding their cattle with the leaves in winter, when other fodder fails. The villages on the road make a handſome ſhew, being built of white ſtone; but their churches are ornamented in a very barbarous ſtile. The face of the country is too rocky, and too bare of trees, corn, and graſs, to be agreeable; and the prodigious number of ſtone walls would diſfigure a much more fruitful one. Near the end of our ride, which was about twenty-four miles, the landſcape became more lively, from a great quantity of gardens.

Lecce,

Lecce, the capital of Terra di Otranto, the ſeat of its tribunal, and the ſecond city in the kingdom,—is better paved and built than any town in the province. If its architects had been poſſeſſed of the ſmalleſt gleam of taſte, the buildings would have made a noble figure; for the ſtone of the country is of a fine white, ſo ſoft, when taken out of the quarry, that it may be moulded like wax, and will receive any form the ſlighteſt ſtrokes of the chiſſel impreſs it with; yet, by remaining expoſed to the air, very ſoon acquires a proper degree of conſiſtency. No materials, therefore, can be more deſirable for ornamental maſonry, or more ſuſceptible of regularity and nicety of juncture. But the fronts of the principal edifices are crimped into ſuch crowded uncouth decorations, that I lamented that the Grecian arts ever returned into this country: for the architecture of the Goths and Saracens, with all its oddities, is the very perfection of beauty and good ſenſe, when compared with theſe Corinthian and Compoſite extravagances at Lecce. The cathedral was erected by Tancred, before he aſcended the throne; it is dedicated to Saints Cataldo and Nicholas, one of which is placed on a mutilated antique column in the great ſquare. This fragment was brought from Brindiſi, where its companion is ſtill ſtanding. Many of the paintings in the churches, and houſes of the nobility, are by Verrio, a native of Lecce, long employed in England,—where his ſtaircaſes and cielings are admired for their perſpective deception,

deception, and variety of figures, though deficient in correctneſs, choice, and other requiſites of the art. He died in 1707.—The number of inhabitants does not reach thirteen thouſand, very inadequate to the extent of the city. It has the reputation of being, to the reſt of the kingdom, what Thebes was to Greece; and a native of Lecce is ſaid to be diſtinguiſhable from his fellow-ſubjects, by the heavineſs of his manner, and the dulneſs of his apprehenſion. I dare not be ſo raſh as to pronounce upon this point; having had, during my ſhort ſtay among them, very little opportunity of converſing with the Leccians, or appreciating their parts and learning. But I cannot ſuſpect a city to be the ſeat of ſtupidity, that has an academy of Belles Lettres, and where ſome of the Muſes at leaſt meet with very ſincere and ſucceſsful admirers. Though the academy, from a want of royal protection, and proper directors, has of late confined its exertions to ſonnets, and other abſurd ebullitions of fancy; yet muſic is here cultivated with a degree of enthuſiaſm. Many of the nobility are good performers, and proud of exhibiting their ſkill on ſolemn feſtivals. The Leccian muſic has a very plaintive character, peculiar to itſelf. The Dilettanti ſing ſtanzas to the following tune, which is a ſpecimen of their ſtyle; and I have frequently heard Improviſatori chant their extempore verſes to it *.

* Don Luigi Serio of Naples is a very great genius in that line, and much ſuperior to the celebrated Corilla, ſo well known to all the Engliſh that have been at Florence.



At or near Lecce, was the Roman colony of Lupiæ. Some geopraphers confound it with Rudiæ, the birth-place of Ennius, who flouriſhed about two hundred years before Chriſt, and compoſed ſeveral poems, of which only fragments have eſcaped the ravages of time.

Very ſoon after the eſtabliſhment of the Normans, Earls were enfeoffed with the manor of Lecce. The daughter of one of them bore to the eldeſt ſon of King Roger a natural ſon, called Tancred, who came at length to be King of the Two Sicilies. Before his election to the crown, he enjoyed the eſtate of his maternal anceſtors, and was a great benefactor to this city. His daughter Albiria transferred the earldom to her huſband Walter de Brienne, and the heireſs of the Briennes married C. de Engenio. Mary, the laſt of that family was given in marriage by Lewis of Anjou, to Raymond Orſino the fortunate adventurer, who afterwards became Prince of Taranto. On the failure of his

posterity, Lecce fell, with the rest of their property, into the hands of the Crown.

From Lecce it is twenty-four miles to Brindisi, through an ugly tract of land, thinly peopled and poorly cultivated. The untilled part is over-run with beautiful shrubs. As we advanced, the country rather improved upon us, but still bore the marks of misery and depopulation.

SECTION LI.

BRINDISI is a great city, if the extent of its walls be considered; but the inhabited houses do not fill above half the inclosure. The streets are crooked and rough, the buildings poor and ruinous; no very remarkable church or edifice. The cathedral, dedicated to St. Theodore, is a work of King Roger, but not equal in point of architecture to many churches founded by that monarch, who had a strong passion for building. The canons of this church retain the ancient custom of having handmaids; but as they take care to choose them of canonical age and face, we may suppose these Focariæ to be only chaste representatives of the helpmates allowed to the clergy before Popes and Councils had reprobated them. These women are exempted from taxes, and enjoy many privileges. When they die, they are buried gratis, and the funeral is attended

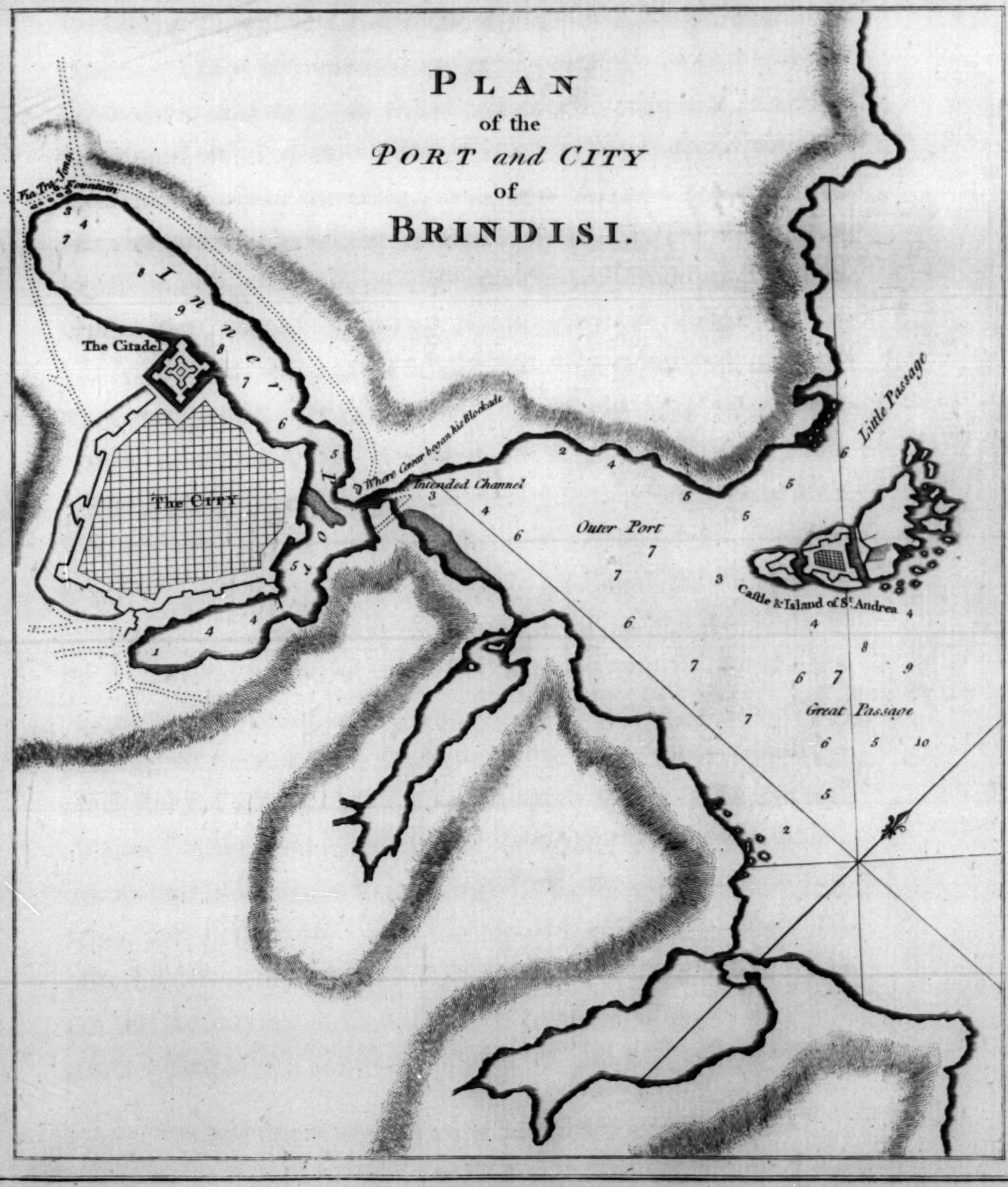
by the Chapter with great ſolemnity; which is a mark of reſpect it does not pay to any relations of the canons.

Near the port ſtand the walls of a palace erected by Walter de Brienne, in a very bad taſte. Its materials are grey ſtone, divided at regular diſtances with broad courſes of black marble *. Little remains of ancient Brunduſium, except innumerable broken pillars, fixed at the corners of ſtreets to defend the houſes from carts; fragments of coarſe Moſaic, the floors of former habitations; the column of the light-houſe; a large marble baſon, into which the water runs from brazen heads of deer; ſome inſcriptions, ruins of aqueducts, coins, and other ſmall furniture of an antiquary's cabinet. Its caſtle, built by the Emperor Frederick the Second to protect the northern branch of the harbour, is large and ſtately. Charles the Fifth repaired it.

The port is double, and the fineſt in the Adriatic. The outer part is formed by two promontories, that ſtretch off gradually from each other as they advance into the ſea, leaving a very narrow channel at the baſe of the angle. The iſland of St. Andrew, on which Alphonſus the Firſt built a fortreſs, lies between the capes, and ſecures the whole road from the fury of the waves. In this triangular ſpace, large ſhips may ride at anchor. At the bottom of the bay the hills recede in a ſemicircular ſhape, to leave room for the inner-haven, which, as it were, claſps the city in its arms,

* Theſe walls have been ſince pulled down, and employed in the facing of the new canal.

PLAN
of the
PORT and CITY
of
BRINDISI.



G.R. III.

or rather encircles it, in the figure of a ſtag's head and horns. This form is ſaid to have given riſe to the name of Brunduſium, which, in the old Meſſapian language, ſignified the head of a deer. I think it probable that this harbour was produced by an earthquake, which cauſed the ground to ſink, and the waters to run into the chaſm; for all the hills round it are on an exact level, and have parallel correſpondent ſtrata. Nothing can be more beautiful than this interior port, or better adapted to every purpoſe of trade and navigation. It is very deep, and extends in length two miles and a half, in breadth twelve hundred feet in the wideſt part. The hills and the town ſhelter it on every ſide. The north ridge is prettily cultivated and planted, but that to the ſouth is bare of wood, and all ſown with corn. In ancient days, the communication between the two havens was marked by lights placed upon columns of the Corinthian order, ſtanding on a riſing ground, in a direct line with the channel. Of theſe one remains entire upon its pedeſtal *. Its capital is adorned with figures of Syrens and Tritons, intermingled with the Acanthus leaf, and upon it is a circular vaſe, which formerly held the fire. A modern inſcription has been cut upon the plinth. Near it is another pedeſtal of ſimilar dimenſions, with one piece of the ſhaft lying on it. The reſt of the column was ſold to the people of Lecce after the earthquake of 1456, which

* It is of the ſort of green and white marble called Cipollino.

threw it down, and deſtroyed great part of the city. The ſpace between theſe pillars anſwered to the entrance of the harbour. The whole kingdom of Naples cannot ſhew a more complete ſituation for trade than Brindiſi. Here goodneſs of ſoil, depth of water, ſafety of anchorage, and a centrical poſition, are all united; yet it has neither commerce, huſbandry, nor populouſneſs. From the obſtructions in the channel, which communicates with the two havens, ariſes the tribe of evils that afflict and deſolate this unhappy town. Julius Cæſar may be ſaid to have begun its ruin, by attempting to block up Pompey's fleet. He drove piles into the neck of land between the two ridges of hills; threw in earth, trees, and ruins of houſes; and had nearly accompliſhed the blockade, when Pompey ſailed out and eſcaped to Greece. In the fifteenth century, the Prince of Taranto ſunk ſome ſhips in the middle of the paſſage, to prevent the royaliſts from entering the port, and thereby provided a reſting-place for ſea-weeds and ſand, which ſoon accumulated, choked up the mouth, and rendered it impracticable for any veſſels whatſoever. In 1752, the evil was increaſed, ſo as to hinder even the waves from beating through; and all communication was cut off, except in violent eaſterly winds, or rainy ſeaſons, when an extraordinary quantity of freſh water raiſes the level. From that period the port became a fetid green lake, full of infection and noxious inſects; no fiſh but eels could live in it, nor any boat ply except canoes made of a ſingle tree. They can

hold

hold but one perſon, and overſet with the leaſt irregularity of motion. The low grounds at each end were overflowed and converted into marſhes, the vapours of which created every ſummer a real peſtilence, and, in the courſe of very few years, ſwept off, or drove away, the largeſt portion of the inhabitants. From the number of eighteen thouſand, they were reduced in 1766 to that of five thouſand livid wretches, tormented with agues and malignant fevers. In 1775 above fifteen hundred perſons died during the autumn;—A woful change of climate! Thirty years ago, the air of Brindiſi was eſteemed ſo wholeſome and balſamic, that the convents of Naples were wont to ſend their conſumptive friars to this city for the recovery of their health. This ſtate of miſery and deſtruction induced the remaining citizens to apply for relief to Don Carlo Demarco, one of the King's miniſters, and a native of Brindiſi. In conſequence of this application, Don Vito Caravelli was ordered to draw up plans, and fix upon the means of opening the port afreſh. Don Andrea Pigonati was laſt year ſent to execute his projects; and by the help of machines, and the labour of the galley-ſlaves, has ſucceeded in ſome meaſure. The channel has been partly cleared, and has now two fathom of water. It can admit large boats, a great ſtep towards the revival of trade; but what is of more immediate importance, it gives a free paſſage to the ſea, which now ruſhes in with impetuoſity, and runs out again at each tide; ſo that the water of the inner port is ſet in motion,

and

and once more rendered wholeſome. The canal, or gut, is to be ſeven hundred yards long, and drawn in a ſtrait line from the column. At preſent, its parapets are defended by piles and faſcines; but if the original plan be purſued, ſtone piers will be erected on both ſides. Don Andrea, who received me with great politeneſs and hoſpitality, has the ſucceſs of this undertaking extremely at heart; and as he ſpares no pains, has money enough for his calls, and ſeems to be very well verſed in his profeſſion, it is to be hoped the patriotic wiſhes of his employers will not prove vain and deluſory. If the defence againſt the ſea be ſufficient, and a proper method be followed for turning off the load of ſand which every tide brings in, and naturally tends to depoſit where the current draws it, this work will remain an honour to the Miniſter by whoſe direction it was undertaken, and to the engineers who have ſuperintended it; but it appeared to me, upon examining every thing very attentively, rather doubtful whether the work be properly ſecured againſt accidents, and whether a very conſiderable annual expence will not be neceſſary to keep it in order *.

When the canal ſhall be ſcooped out to a proper depth, and its piers ſolidly eſtabliſhed, veſſels of any burden may once more enter this land-locked port, which affords room

* I am ſorry to find, by the laſt accounts I have received from that country, that the parapets have proved too weak to reſiſt the violence of the ſea; that much damage has already been done, and great part of the channel once more choked with ſand.

for

for a whole navy. Docks wet and dry may be dug, goods may be ſhipped at the quay, and convenient watering-places be made with great eaſe. If merchants ſhould think it a place of riſing trade, and worthy of their notice, there is no want of ſpace in the town for any factory whatever. Circulation of caſh would give vigour to huſbandry, and proviſions would ſoon abound in this market. The ſands at the foot of the hills, which form the channel, are to be laid out in beds for muſcles and oyſters. Some eccleſiaſtics are raiſing nurſeries of orange and lemon trees; and other citizens intend introducing the cultivation of mulberry-trees, and breeding of ſilk-worms.

The Engineer would have done very little for the health of Brindiſi, had he only opened a paſſage, and given a free courſe to the waters; the marſhes at each extremity of the harbour would ſtill have infected the air; he therefore, at the expence of about a thouſand ducats, had the fens filled up with earth, and a dam raiſed to confine the waters, and prevent their flowing back upon the meadows. The people of Brindiſi, who are ſenſible of the bleſſings already derived from theſe operations, who feel a return of health, and ſee an opening for commerce and opulence, ſeem ready to acknowledge the obligation. They intend to erect a ſtatue to the King, with inſcriptions on the pedeſtal in honour of the Miniſter and Agents.

The workmen, in cleaning the channel, have found ſome medals and ſeals, and have drawn up many of the piles that

were driven in by Cæſar. They are ſmall oaks ſtripped of their bark, and ſtill as freſh as if they had been cut only a month, though buried above eighteen centuries ſeven feet under the ſand.

The ſoil about the town is light and good. It produces excellent cotton with which the Brindiſians manufacture gloves and ſtockings.

SECTION LII.

IT is impoſſible to determine who were the founders of Brunduſium, or when it was firſt inhabited*. The Romans took early poſſeſſion of a harbour ſo convenient for their enterprizes againſt the nations dwelling beyond the Adriatic. In the five hundred and ninth year of Rome they ſent a colony hither. Pompey took refuge here; but finding his poſt untenable, made a precipitate retreat to Greece. In this city Octavianus firſt aſſumed the name of Cæſar, and here he concluded one of his ſhort-lived peaces with Antony. Brunduſium had been already celebrated for giving birth to the tragic poet Pacuvius, and about this time became remarkable for the death of Virgil. The Bar-

* Nummi Brunduſinorum.

ÆR. 1. Cap. Herculis imb. pel. leon. tect.=Homo nudus delp. inequ. d. delp. ſ. lyr. ten. ΒΡΕΝΔΗΣΙΝΩΝ.

2. Cap. barb. laur. 1 glob.=Homo nud. delp. ineq. b. lyram. 1 glob. BRTN.

3. Cap. barb. laur. pone vict. cor. imp. tridens 1 glob.=Homo nud. delp. ine. d. Victor. ſ. cornuc. clava. 1 glob. BRTN.

barians,

barians, who ravaged every corner of Italy, did not ſpare ſo rich a town; and in eight hundred and thirty-ſix, the Saracens gave a finiſhing blow to its fortunes. The Greek Emperors, ſenſible of the neceſſity of having ſuch a port as this in Italy, would have reſtored it to its ancient ſtrength and ſplendour, had the Normans allowed them time and leiſure. The Greeks ſtruggled manfully to keep their ground; but, after many varieties of ſucceſs, were finally driven out of Brindiſi by William the Firſt.

The phrenzy for expeditions to Paleſtine, though it drained other kingdoms of their wealth and ſubjects, contributed powerfully to the re-eſtabliſhment of this city, one of the ports where pilgrims and warriors took ſhipping. It alſo benefited by the reſidence of the Emperor Frederick, whoſe frequent armaments for the Holy Land required his preſence at this place of rendezvous. The loſs of Jeruſalem, the fall of the Grecian empire, and the ruin of all the Levant trade after the Turks had conquered the Eaſt, reduced Brindiſi to a ſtate of inactivity and deſolation, from which it has never been able to emerge.

As I was now in the country of the Tarantula, I was deſirous of inveſtigating minutely every particular relative to that inſect; but the ſeaſon was not far enough advanced, and no Tarantati* had begun to ſtir. I prevailed upon a woman, who had formerly been bitten, to act the part, and

* Perſons bitten, or pretending to be bitten, by the Tarantula.

dance the Tarantata before me. A great many muſicians were ſummoned, and ſhe performed the dance, as all preſent aſſured me, to perfection. At firſt, ſhe lolled ſtupidly on a chair, while the inſtruments were playing ſome dull muſic. They touched, at length, the chord ſuppoſed to vibrate to her heart, and up ſhe ſprang with a moſt hideous yell, ſtaggered about the room like a drunken perſon, holding a handkerchief in both hands, raiſing them alternately, and moving in very true time. As the muſic grew briſker, her motions quickened, and ſhe ſkipped about with great vigour and variety of ſteps, every now and then ſhrieking very loud. The ſcene was far from pleaſant; and, at my deſire, an end was put to it before the woman was tired. Wherever the Tarantati are to dance, a place is prepared for them, hung round with bunches of grapes and ribbons. The patients are dreſſed in white, with red, green, or yellow ribbons, for thoſe are their favourite colours; on their ſhoulders they caſt a white ſcarf, let their hair fall looſe about their ears, and throw their heads as far back as they can bear it. They are exact copies of the ancient prieſteſſes of Bacchus. The orgies of that God, whoſe worſhip *, under various ſymbols, was more widely ſpread over the globe than that of any other divinity, were, no doubt, performed with energy and enthuſiaſm by

* I ſhall ſay nothing more on the ſubject of this univerſal worſhip, as it is treated in a moſt ingenious and ſatisfactory manner by Mr. D'Ancarville, who will ſoon favour the Public with his Work.

the

the lively inhabitants of this warm climate. The introduction of Chriſtianity aboliſhed all public exhibitions of theſe heatheniſh rites, and the women durſt no longer act a frantic part in the character of Bacchantes. Unwilling to give up ſo darling an amuſement, they deviſed other pretences; and poſſeſſion by evil ſpirits may have furniſhed them with one. Accident may alſo have led them to a diſcovery of the Tarantula; and, upon the ſtrength of its poiſon, the Puglian dames ſtill enjoy their old dance, though time has effaced the memory of its ancient name and inſtitution: and this I take to be the origin of ſo ſtrange a practice. If at any time theſe dancers are really and involuntarily affected, I can ſuppoſe it to be nothing more than an attack upon their nerves, a ſpecies of St. Vitus's dance. I incline the more to the idea, as there are numberleſs churches and places throughout theſe provinces dedicated to that ſaint. Many ſenſible people of this town differ in opinion from Doctor Serao and other authors, who have ridiculed the pretended diſorder, and affirmed, that the venom of this ſpecies of ſpider can produce no effects but ſuch as are common to all others. The Brindiſians ſay, that the Tarantulas ſent to Naples for the experiment were not of the true ſort, but a much larger and more innocent one; and that the length of the journey, and want of food, had weakened their power ſo much, as to ſuffer the Doctor, or others, to put their arm into the bag where they were kept, with impunity. They quote many

examples of perſons bitten as they ſlept out in the fields during the hot months, who grew languid, ſtupid, deprived of all courage and elaſticity, till the ſound of ſome favourite tune rouſed them to dance, and throw off the poiſon. Theſe arguments of theirs had little weight with me, for they acknowledged that elderly perſons were more frequently infected than young ones, and that moſt of them were women, and thoſe unmarried. No perſon above the loweſt rank in life was ever ſeized with this malady, nor is there an inſtance of its cauſing death. The length of the dance, and the patient's powers of bearing ſuch exceſſive fatigue in the canicular ſeaſon, prove nothing; becauſe every day, at that time of the year, peaſants may be ſeen dancing with equal ſpirit and perſeverance, though they do not pretend to be ſeized with the Tarantiſm. The illneſs may therefore be attributed to hyſterics, exceſſive heat, ſtoppage of perſpiration, and other effects of ſleeping out of doors in a hot ſummer air, which is always extremely dangerous, if not mortal, in moſt parts of Italy. Violent exerciſe may have been found to be a certain cure for this diſorder, and continued by tradition, though the date and circumſtances of this diſcovery have been long buried in oblivion;—a natural paſſion for dancing, imitation, cuſtom of the country, and a deſire of raiſing contributions upon the ſpectators, are probably the real motives that inſpire the Tarantati. Before Serao's experiments, the Tarantula had been proved

to

to be harmleſs, from trials made in 1693 by Clarizio, and in 1740 at Lucera by other naturaliſts.

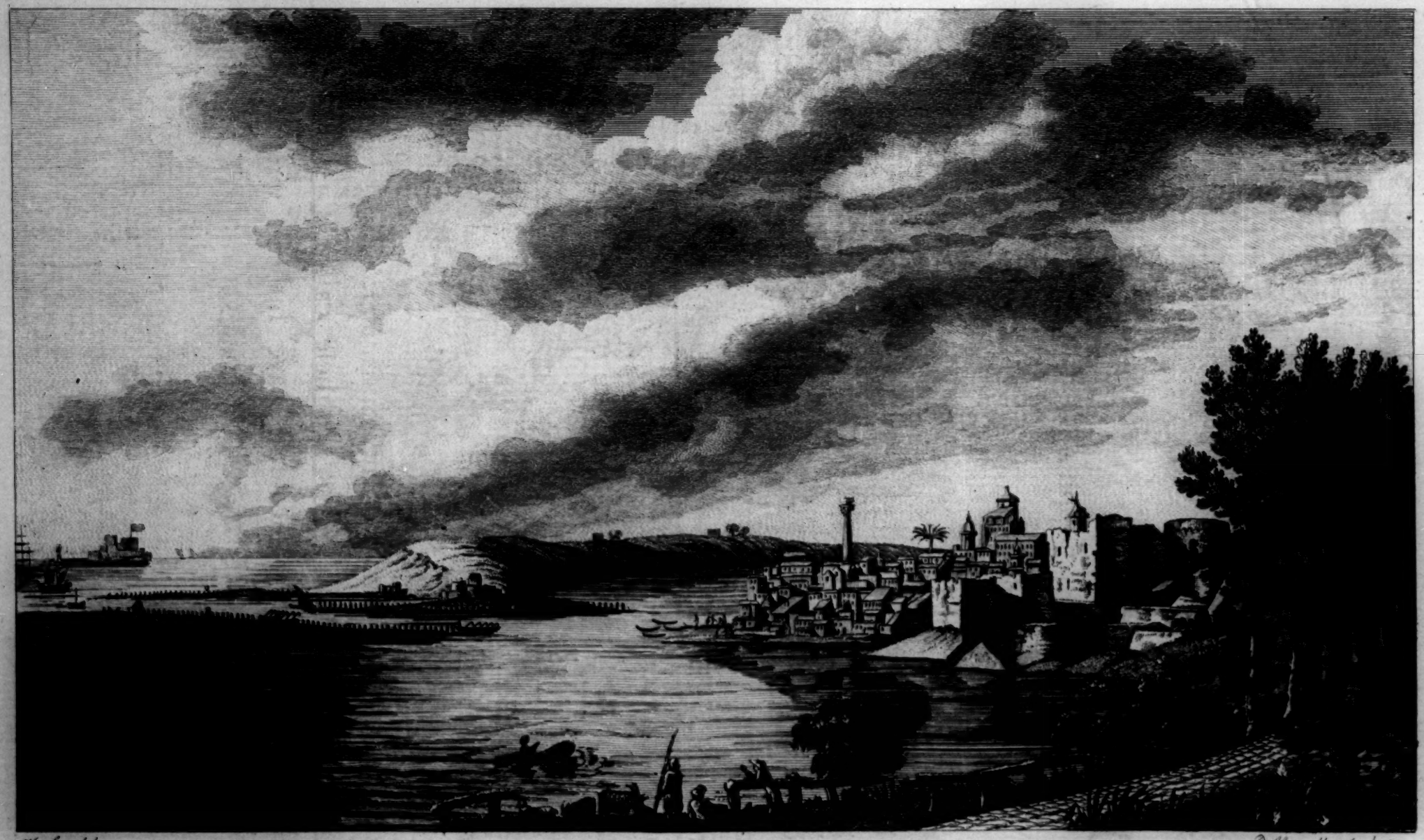
The Tarantula is a ſpider of the third ſpecies of Linnæus's fourth family, with eight eyes placed four, two and two; its colour commonly a very dark grey, but varies according to age and food. The bulk of its fore-part is almoſt double that of the hind part; the back of its neck raiſed high, and its leg ſhort and thick. It lives in bare fields, where the lands are fallow, but not very hard; and, from its antipathy to damp and ſhade, chooſes for its reſidence the riſing part of the ground facing the eaſt. Its dwelling is about four inches deep, and half an inch wide; at the bottom it is curved, and there the inſect ſits in wet weather, and cuts its way out, if water gains upon it. It weaves a net at the mouth of the hole. Theſe ſpiders do not live quite a year. In July they ſhed their ſkin, and proceed to propagation, which, from a mutual diſtruſt, as they frequently devour one another, is a work undertaken with great circumſpection. They lay about ſeven hundred and thirty eggs, which are hatched in the ſpring; but the parent does not live to ſee her progeny, having expired early in the winter. The Ichneumon fly is their moſt formidable enemy.

SECTION LIII.

ON leaving Brindiſi, I paſſed by the well at the head of the haven, which ſupplies the town with water. The view from this point takes in the port, column, a large palm-tree, churches, and caſtles, all objects of great pictureſque beauty.

At a few miles diſtance, the Trajan way is eaſily traced as it croſſes a hollow. It is raiſed to a level upon arches, built in the reticular or loſengy manner. Moſt of this day's journey to Monopoli, although forty-three miles long, was near the coaſt, through a wild country covered with varieties of ever-green ſhrubs. The ſmall portion of ground in cultivation is ſown with beans; but there is a cruel enemy that every year deſtroys the beſt part of the crop: this is the Orobanche or Broom Rape, a paraſite weed that ſhoots up with beans, and other leguminous plants, mixes its roots with theirs, and, by drawing out all the nutriment, cauſes them to droop, pine, and die. The Puglieſe call it La Sporchia. All their efforts to eradicate it have hitherto proved ineffectual; but I ſuſpect they have gone very ſuperficially to work.

At



H. Sw. del. *P. Mazell Sculp.*

A VIEW of the CITY of BRINDISI the Anc.t BRUNDUSIUM taken from the NORTH WEST HEAD of the PORT.

1 The Adriatic. 2 The Castle. 3.3 The Entrance lately clear'd. 4 The Neck of Land where Cæsar began his Blockade. 5 The old Entrance? 6 The Column of the Light House. 7 The Castle of Charles the V. 8 The old Roman Road.

GR III.
BRITISH MUSEUM

At Bari I took the inland road by the ancient Via Egnatiana, which Horace travelled upon. We ſlept at Bitonto*, a fine town of ſixteen thouſand inhabitants, much eaſier in their fortunes, and more poliſhed and improved in their manners, than thoſe that dwell in the cities along the coaſt; its markets are well ſupplied, and an air of affluence reigns in the place. The country between it and Bari, which is nine miles diſtant, is very much incloſed; and, though ſtony, fertile in corn, almonds, olives, wine, and fruit of all kinds. I found there was a general cry of famine throughout the country; but it was a want of ſnow, not of bread, that was complained of. Near this city an obeliſk was erected by the preſent King of Spain, with four fulſome inſcriptions in praiſe of himſelf, his father Philip, his ſoldiers, and the Count of Mortemar, who was honoured with the title of Duke of Bitonto for having defeated the Auſtrians on this ſpot in 1734. The engagement was a very trifling one; but as it cleared the kingdom of Germans, proved of eſſential ſervice to the Spaniards. If the King wiſhes to tranſmit this event to poſterity by a monument, he muſt build ſomething more durable, for the preſent one is already disjointed, and crumbling to ruin. A moſt diſagreeable ſtony road brought us to Ruvo, through a vine country. The pomegranate hedges in flower, and the holme oak loaded with

* Nummi Butont.

ÆR. 1. Cap. Palladis=Ariſta BΥΤΟΝΤΙΝΩΝ.
2. Noctua ram. inſ.=Fulmen BΥΤΟΝΤΙΝΩΝ.

kermes, enlivened the proſpect, which otherwiſe would have been very dull. Near Quarata, another monument is to be ſeen, commemorating a victory gained there in 1503 by thirteen Italians over an equal number of French. They fought in liſts upon a formal challenge, in conſequence of ſome contemptuous expreſſions made uſe of by the latter. Each of the vanquiſhed party was to forfeit one hundred ducats, his horſe, and armour. The conteſt was not very obſtinate; one Frenchman was killed; the reſt made priſoners, and led away to Barletta, becauſe they had not brought their ranſom with them. The Italian authors extol this action as a moſt glorious atchievement: the French accuſe their adverſaries of having diſplayed more trick and cunning, than valour, in the combat.—I here quitted the Roman way, and rode fifteen miles weſtward to Caſtel del Monte. The country I traverſed is open, uneven, and dry. The caſtle is a landmark, and ſtands on the brow of a very high hill, the extremity of a ridge that branches out from the Apennine. The aſcent to it is near half a mile long, and very ſteep; the view from its terrace moſt extenſive. A vaſt reach of ſea and plain on one ſide, and mountains on the other; not a city in the province but is diſtinguiſhable; yet the barenneſs of the fore-ground takes off a great deal of the beauty of the picture. The building is octangular, in a plain ſolid ſtyle; the walls are raiſed with reddiſh and white ſtones, ten feet ſix inches thick; the great gate is of marble, cut into very intricate ornaments, after the

the manner of the Arabians; on the baluſtrade of the ſteps lie two enormous lions of marble, their buſhy manes nicely, though barbarouſly, expreſſed; the court, which is in the centre of the edifice, contains an octangular marble baſon of a ſurpriſing diameter. To carry it to the ſummit of ſuch a hill muſt have coſt an infinite deal of labour. Two hundred ſteps lead up to the top of the caſtle, which conſiſts of two ſtories. In each of them are fifteen ſaloons of great dimenſions, caſed throughout with various and valuable marbles; the cielings are ſupported by triple cluſtered columns of a ſingle block of white marble, the capitals extremely ſimple. Various have been the opinions concerning the founder of this caſtle; but the beſt grounded aſcribe it to Frederick of Swabia *. I dined and ſpent the hot hours with great comfort under the porch, which commands a noble view of the Adriatic.

In the evening I deſcended the mountain, and rode nine miles to Andria, a large feudal city, eaſt of the Roman road. Andria ſtands on the edge of the incloſed country, and its environs being rather hilly, are far from unpleaſant, though without any running water. This town was built

* A Neapolitan gentleman found, in one of theſe rooms, a baſſo relievo repreſenting this Emperor and his Chancellor Peter de Vineis, of which he had a copy taken in plaſter. This ſettles the matter beyond a doubt. I did not diſcover this ſculpture, nor hear of it till long after my return to Naples; but I ſaw another baſſo relievo of ſome warriors in Norman habits meeting a woman dreſſed after the Greek faſhion.—As this ſtone appears to have been inſerted into the walls ſince their firſt building, and bears the date of 1520, it caſts no light on the hiſtory of the place.

by Peter the Norman, and acquired its name from the antra or caverns in which the firſt ſettlers abided. Conrad the Fourth was born at Andria, where his mother, the Empreſs Iole Queen of Jeruſalem died in childbed of him; and here alſo lies buried Iſabella of England, another wife of the Emperor Frederick. Beatrix, daughter to Charles the Second, had Andria for her portion on marrying Azzo D'Eſte Marquis of Ferrara. This Prince dying, ſhe took for her ſecond huſband Bertrand Del Balzo, progenitor of the Dukes of Andria, who were long at the head of the Neapolitan Nobility. In 1370, Francis Del Balzo, by a quarrel with the powerful Houſe of Sanſeverino, and his obſtinate reſiſtance to the royal mandate, drew upon himſelf the vengeance of Queen Joan the Firſt, who confiſcated his eſtate. On the acceſſion of Charles the Third, he was reinſtated. This family failing, Fabricio Caraffa purchaſed the Dutchy of Andria in 1525 for one hundred thouſand ducats.

From hence I travelled twelve miles to Canoſa, over a pleaſant down, where the Roman road remains entire in many places, paved with common rough pebbles. Canuſium, founded by Diomed, and afterwards a Roman colony, became one of the moſt conſiderable cities of this part of Italy for extent, population, and magnificence in building. The æra of Trajan ſeems to have been that of its greateſt ſplendour; but this pomp only ſerved to mark it as a capital object for the avarice and fury of the Barbarians. Genſeric,

ſeric, Totila, and Autharis, treated it with extreme cruelty. The deplorable ſtate to which this province was reduced in 590 is conciſely, but ſtrongly, painted by Gregory the Great in theſe terms: "On every ſide we hear groans! on every "ſide we behold crowds of mourners, cities burnt, caſtles "raſed to the ground, countries laid waſte, provinces be-"come deſerts, ſome citizens led away captives, and others "inhumanly maſſacred." No town in Puglia ſuffered more than Canoſa from the outrages of the Saracens; the conteſts between the Greeks and Normans increaſed the meaſure of its woes, which was filled by a conflagration that happened when it was ſtormed by Duke Robert. In 1090, it was aſſigned, by agreement, to Bohemund Prince of Antioch, who died here in 1111. Under the reign of Ferdinand the Third this eſtate belonged to the Grimaldis. On their forfeiture, the Affaititi acquired it, and ſtill retain the title of Marquis, though the Capeci are the propritors of the fief.

The ancient city* ſtood in a plain between the hills and the river Ofanto, and covered a large tract of ground. Many brick monuments, though degraded and ſtripped of their marble caſing, ſtill atteſt its ancient grandeur. Among them may be traced the fragments of aqueducts, tombs, amphitheatre baths, military columns, and two

* Nummi Canuſ.

ÆR. 1. Cap. Juv. imb.=Eques gal. haſtat. ΚΑΝΥΣΙΝΩ.

triumphal arches, which, by their poſition, ſeem to have been two city gates. The preſent town ſtands above, on the foundations of the old citadel, and is a moſt pitiful remnant of ſo great a city, not containing above three hundred houſes. The church of St. Sabinus, built, as is ſaid, in the ſixth century, is now without the incloſure. It is aſtoniſhing, that any part of this ancient cathedral ſhould have withſtood ſo many calamities. Its altars and pavements are rich in marbles; and the ſix Verde Antico columns that ſupport its roof, are the largeſt and fineſt I ever ſaw of that ſpecies of marble. In a ſmall court adjoining, under an octagonal cupola, is the mauſoleum of Bohemund, adorned in a minute Gothic ſtyle. Round the cornice runs a ſtring of barbarous rhymes; and upon the door are other inſcriptions, with an emboſſed repreſentation of warriors kneeling before the Madonna. In 1461, the Prince of Taranto, among the many acts of barbarity practiſed by him in Canoſa, broke open this ſepulchre, and diſturbed the aſhes of a hero whoſe memory ſhould have been held ſacred, at leaſt by a ſoldier: for Bohemund was a warrior of moſt exalted fame, the ſharer and the rival of his father Guiſcard's glory; who, by his victories, was enabled to ſhake the throne of the Eaſtern Emperors: when, by the intrigues of his mother-in-law Sigelgaita, and the partiality of his uncle Earl Roger, Bohemund found himſelf deprived of his Italian inheritance, he turned his arms againſt the Saracens, and formed a new ſovereignty for himſelf in Paleſtine. As

Prince of Antioch, he became one of the firmeſt ramparts of the Cruſado againſt the Infidels.

The proweſs of theſe Norman conquerors was ſo much greater than that of their cotemporaries, their bodily ſtrength and feats of arms were ſo wonderful, that it is probable they were the originals from whom the writers of romance drew their heroes. Giants cloven to the ſaddle; armies routed by a ſingle warrior; caſtles and bridges defended by one perſon alone; knights travelling over the world in ſearch of kingdoms, princeſſes, and adventures, are no more than the real events of the lives of William Fierabras, Robert Guiſcard, Earl Roger, and their companions. Malaterra, their cotemporary, friend, and hiſtorian, furniſhes ample materials for a complete romance, with the addition of a few enchanters and dragons. In the firſt Sicilian campaign, William ſlays a gigantic champion in ſingle combat. At Melfi, to ſhew the Greek herald what he could do, Hugh Tudextifem ſeizes his horſe, and kills it with a blow of his fiſt. In another affair, Fierabras ſprings from his bed, where he lay ſick of a fever, rallies his troops, kills the general of the enemies, obtains the victory, and returns to his couch. We read frequently of Robert's being obliged for food to ſally out of his caſtle by night to ſurpriſe and carry off the cattle in the neighbourhood; and once he called out the commander of a fort to parley, caught him by the middle, and rode off with him in ſight of his whole garriſon. I do not know which to admire moſt,

moſt, the frankneſs of the prince who dictated his own ſtory; or the honeſt plainneſs of the hiſtorian who wrote, that Earl Roger was once ſo poor as to be obliged to ſteal horſes, and plunder travellers for a ſupport. At the ſiege of Reggio, Roger hews a mighty giant down with his two-handed ſword. In a ſally he makes from a caſtle in Sicily, where he and his wife were beſieged by the Saracens, his horſe is killed under him; but the hero cuts his way through their battalions; and, leſt he ſhould be thought to have left the field out of fear, marches off with the ſaddle upon his ſhoulders. In 1063, Serlo defeats an army of thirty thouſand men with only thirty-ſix knights armed cap-a-pee. What a fund of marvellous fictions would not ſuch facts give birth to! How many ſupernatural circumſtances might not a bard create out of the ſingle one of Roger's defeating the Mahometans at Miſilmeri, taking all their carrier-pigeons, ſmearing them with the blood of the ſlain, and letting them fly to announce the diſaſter at Palermo, which he was marching to inveſt. The idea of theſe extraordinary men certainly remained long impreſſed on the minds of the Italians, whoſe lively imagination muſt have embelliſhed tradition with ſo many additional wonders, that the old romances had little more to do than to commit to writing, and dreſs up in rhyme, the common tales of every evening aſſembly. In theſe the eaſy brilliant genius of Arioſto revelled, and ſtruck out the moſt delightful, but moſt eccentrical deſcriptions ever ſeriouſly attempted by a poet.

SECTION LIV.

I LEFT the bridge of Canoſa early on the 7th, and travelled up the ſouth-ſide of the river for twelve miles, without meeting with any object worthy of remark. The city of Minervino, ſeated on an eminence, was the only place I ſaw during the ride;—the country bare and diſagreeable, till I entered the heart of the mountains, where I found a more woody and pleaſant landſcape. I dined at Lavello, a ſmall city belonging to Caracciolo Prince of Torella. Some Roman inſcriptions, and many Jewiſh epitaphs of the ninth century, are the amount of its antiquities. The æra of its foundation is unknown. Mention is made of it in the Lombard Chronicles, Sicard the eighteenth Duke of Beneventum having been aſſaſſinated at Lavello. Conrad the Fourth was encamped under its walls, when he was ſeized with the diſorder that carried him off, poiſoned, as is ſaid, by his brother Manfred. Hiſtorians ſpeak of a ſtrange kind of poiſon adminiſtered on the occaſion, viz. powder of diamonds mixed with ſcammony, which being given in a clyſter, brought away the Emperor's bowels by piece-meal. This Prince was then in the zenith of his glory, having routed his enemies, puniſhed the rebels with ſeverity, and effectually cruſhed their power. Had he been allowed to live longer, the

Houſe

Houſe of Swabia would not have been ſo eaſily overturned; for though bloody and cruel to exceſs, Conrad was poſſeſſed of the bold manly qualities requiſite for fixing his dominion on a permanent baſis.

From Lavello I paſſed over rugged mountains to Venoſa, which ſtands on a high level of nine miles in circumference, ſurrounded by precipices, that form on every ſide a natural ditch and fortification. The whole maſs has been raiſed by the force of ſubterranean fires, as the nature of the ſoil, and a forum vulcani, or ſolfatara, diſtant a mile from the city, clearly evince. This ſolfatara is not encircled by hills like that of Puzzuoli, which it reſembles in every other particular, of colour, ſulphureous productions, and internal rumblings. Numberleſs ſtreams flow out of its ſides; and, what is extraordinary, vary much in their colour and mineral qualities.

Venoſa was a very conſiderable place in ancient times, and a ſteady uſeful friend to Rome in her ſtruggles with Hannibal. The remnant of Terentius Varro's army fled hither from Cannæ, and obtained of the generous Venuſians both protection and ſupplies of all ſorts. When the Normans ſubdued Puglia, Dreux had Venoſa for his ſhare of the ſpoil. The San Severinos enjoyed it afterwards; then paſſing through the family of Balzo, the honour devolved upon a ſon of Raymund Prince of Taranto. A brother of Pope Martin the Fifth, was for a few years inveſted with this fief; but on the Pontiff's demiſe, was deprived of his

Neapolitan

Neapolitan grants. Caracciolo, Prince of Torella, is the preſent proprietor.

Nothing is now to be ſeen at Venoſa that can recal an idea of its ancient magnificence, except pieces of marble containing parts of inſcriptions, fixed in the walls of houſes and churches. The Gothic edifice belonging to the Maltheſe order, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity, affords the greateſt quantity of fragments, and even entire monuments, torn by the hands of its barbarous founders from ruinated theatres, baths, and temples. This church was erected upon the foundations of a temple conſecrated to Venus, from which goddeſs the city is ſuppoſed to have taken its name. The Benedictine monks were in poſſeſſion of this abbey till the reign of Boniface the Eighth, who endowed the Knights of Saint John with it. Its architecture offers nothing ſingular or beautiful in the Gothic line. Solidity appears to have been more ſtudied by the Norman architects who rebuilt or repaired it, than elegance or lightneſs, which became the principal objects of thoſe builders that ſucceeded them. The remains of Dreux, Robert Guiſcard, and Albarade his wife, whom he divorced to marry a Lombard Princeſs, repoſe under its roof. From the number of Hebraic monuments, which bear the ſame date with thoſe of Lavello, I infer that the Jews flocked to this country about the time that the Saracen power was predominant in Puglia. The piece of antiquity of higheſt reputation, and upon which the inhabitants of Venoſa plume

themſelves moſt, is a marble buſt placed in the great ſquare on a column. This they ſhew as the effigy of their fellow-citizen Horace; but the badneſs of the deſign, and the mode of dreſs, render this opinion very problematical. I take it to be the head of a ſaint. The reſpect paid to ſo diſtinguiſhed a genius does honour to the taſte of the Venoſians; but I am aſtoniſhed they have not canonized their poet, for the vulgar at Naples have made a ſaint of Virgil.

I made an excurſion ſix miles along the Tarentine road to viſit the Banduſian fountain, celebrated by Horace in the thirteenth Ode of his Third Book, and ſo long a point in litigation among critics and commentators. The common opinion placed it at his Sabine farm; but Abbé Chaupy has inconteſtibly proved, that it can be no other than a ſpring near Palazzo, in the principality of St. Gervaſio. I diſcovered it by the deſcription given by Chaupy; and was ſorry to find him ſo faithful a painter of the preſent deplorable ſtate of this once charming fountain. No ſhady groves now hang over its banks to ſhut out the burning mid-day ſun; its gelid waters no longer tumble down the rocks in beautiful caſcades, but, choked with dirt, and loſt in bogs, are forced to ſeek their way under ground to a vent at the foot of the hill.

I returned to Venoſa, and paſſed the night at Barile, at the bottom of Mount Voltore, which I propoſed to aſcend the next day. Barile is a large burgh, ſituated on a hill, that appears to owe its exiſtence to an eruption, as the ſoil

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is entirely volcanical, and the ſtone, employed in buildings, a dark-coloured compact lava. A line of circumvallation of thirty miles, marks the extent of this caſt-up ſoil. The incloſed ſpace is covered with every ſpecies of ſtone, earth, and mineral, uſually found on or near ignivomous mountains. Medicinal waters break on all ſides, and are preſcribed by phyſicians in many caſes. The ſummit of Mount Voltore is like that of all volcanoes, broken on one ſide, and hollow in the middle. In the crater are two lakes of great depth; one near a mile, the other almoſt two in circumference. The water is clear, ſweet, and cool, at leaſt near the ſurface; but I was aſſured that it is inſupportably ſtrong, both in taſte and ſmell, if drawn up from a conſiderable depth.

A change of weather obliged me to leave the mountain in a hurry, and make the beſt of my way to Lavello*.

On the 10th, I paſſed the whole day in croſſing the plains of Puglia to the bridge of Bovino, almoſt ſuffocated with duſt, and parched up with heat. We dined at

* Had the weather been more favourable, I ſhould have ſtopped at Melfi, remarkable for being the firſt place that was ſeized by the Normans, and appointed a common rendezvous for all the chiefs of the league. Hither they brought their booty, and threw it into a joint ſtock. Hither they retired on any reverſe of fortune. In 1059, Nicholas the Second called a Council of one hundred prelates at Melfi, and confirmed the Normans in the poſſeſſion of their uſurped dominions. Upon this confirmation Canoniſts reſt all the rights to the Crown of the two Sicilies. Frederick of Swabia held a Parliament here for the purpoſe of promulgating the conſtitutions compiled by his Chancellor Peter de Vineis.

Ordona, near the ruins of Herdonia, a place of importance in the Punic war; at preſent ſome brick walls, veſtiges of baths, aqueducts, and gates, are all that remain. About a mile off is a farm of the late Jeſuits, called L'Orta, a ſtupendous pile of buildings. From Ariano, we turned off to Benevento, where we arrived through an unremitting deluge of rain, with inceſſant claps of thunder and flaſhes of lightning. Every gutter became a brook, and every brook a river; ſo that we were obliged to make great haſte to get there, before they ſhould ſwell to ſuch a height as to ſtop our paſſage.

SECTION LV.

BENEVENTO is ſituated on the ſlope, and at the point of a hill between two narrow vallies, in one of which runs the river Sabato, in the other the Calore; below the city they unite into one ſtream.

We entered through the arch of Trajan, now called the Porta Aurea, which appears to great diſadvantage from the walls and houſes that hem it in on both ſides; however, it is in tolerable preſervation, and one of the moſt magnificent remains of Roman grandeur to be met with out of Rome. The architecture and ſculpture are both ſingularly beautiful. This elegant monument was erected in the year of Chriſt 114, about the commencement of the Parthian war, and after

after the ſubmiſſion of Decebalus had entitled Trajan to the ſurname of Dacicus. The order is compoſite; the materials, white marble; the height, ſixty palms; length, thirty-ſeven and a half; and depth twenty-four. It conſiſts of a ſingle arch, the ſpan of which is twenty palms, the height thirty-five. On each ſide of it, two fluted columns, upon a joint pedeſtal, ſupport an entablement and an Attic. The intercolumniations and frize are covered with baſſo-relievos, repreſenting the battles and triumph of the Dacian war. In the Attic is the inſcription.—As the ſixth year of Trajan's conſulate, marked on this arch, is alſo to be ſeen on all the milliary columns he erected along his new road to Brunduſium, it is probable that the arch was built to commemorate ſo beneficial an undertaking.

Except the old Metropolis of the World, no city in Italy can boaſt of ſo many remains of ancient ſculpture, as are to be found in Benevento. Scarce a wall is built of any thing but altars, tombs, columns, and remains of entablatures. The moſt conſiderable are in the upper town, which I take to be the ſite of the old one. The cupola of St. Sophia reſts upon a circular colonnade of antique marble, in the ſame manner as thoſe of Santa Maria near Nocera, Saint Sebaſtian, and St. Agnes at Rome,—and other buildings erected under Conſtantine and his family, when the arts were declining. In the court is a fine relievo of the Rape of the Sabines: the other remarkable fragments are, the Death of Meleager,—a Meaſurer of Corn,—ſome ſepulchral buſts,

buſts,—a large boar, covered with the ſtole and vitta for ſacrifice, which antiquaries call the Caledonian Boar, left by Diomed as a badge to his colony of Benevento,—and, Hercules ſtealing the Heſperian Apples. This laſt piece ſtruck me very much, from the reſemblance it bears to our common mode of depicting the Fall of Man. A woman lies at the foot of a tree, and a huge ſerpent is twined round the trunk, ſtretching out its head towards the fruit, which a man leans forward to pluck. The club he holds in his hand, and a Greek inſcription *, mark him out for Hercules †. A volume might be filled with inſcriptions collected here, relative to every ſubject, on which the ancients, who recorded every trifle, were wont to ſet up a lapidary memorial. The chriſtians have alſo contributed a conſiderable variety of monuments. I remarked one, in particular, repreſenting a man riſing out of the waters, and purſued by a fiſh: this alludes to the ſtory of Jonas, and was ſometimes carved upon the tombs of the primitive chriſtians, to expreſs myſteriouſly their belief in the reſurrection.

The cathedral is a clumſy edifice, in a ſtile of Gothic, or rather Lombard, architecture. This church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. was built in the ſixth century, enlarged

* ΗΡΑΚΛΗ CΩΤΗΡΙ Π ΙΟΥΝΙΟC ΙΑΝΟΥΑΡΙΟC ΑΥΓΟΥC ΑΝΕΘΗΚΕΝ.

† Some ingenious writers have endeavoured to prove, that the fable of the Heſperides is built upon the ſcriptural account of our Firſt Parents; and this *Ex Voto* to Hercules, ſhews that there are good grounds for the compariſon.

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in the eleventh, and altered conſiderably in the thirteenth, when Archbiſhop Roger adorned it with a new front. To obtain a ſufficient quantity of marble for this purpoſe, he ſpared neither ſarcophagus, altar, nor inſcription; but fixed them promiſcuouſly and irregularly in the walls of his barbarous ſtructure. Three doors (a type of the Trinity, according to the rules eſtabliſhed by the myſtical Vitruvii of thoſe ages) open into this facade. That in the centre is of bronze, emboſſed with the life of Chriſt, and the effigies of the Beneventine Metropolitan, with all his ſuffragan Biſhops. The inſide offers nothing to the curious obſerver but columns, altars, and other decorations, executed in the moſt inelegant ſtile that any of the church-building barbarians ever adopted. In the court ſtands a ſmall Egyptian obeliſk, of red granite, crowded with hieroglyphics. In the adjoining ſquare, are a fountain, and a very indifferent ſtatue of Benedict the Thirteenth, long archbiſhop of Benevento.

The writers of the Beneventine hiſtory unanimouſly claim Diomed, the Etolian chief, for the founder of their city; and conſequently fix its origin in the years that immediately ſucceeded the Trojan war. Other authors aſſign it to the Samnites, who made it one of their principal towns, where they frequently took refuge, when worſted by the Romans. In their time, its name was Maleventum, a word of uncertain etymology: however, it ſounded ſo ill in the Latin tongue, that the ſuperſtitious Romans, after atchieving the

conqueſt of Samnium, changed it into Beneventum, in order to introduce their colony under fortunate auſpices. Near this place, in the four hundred and ſeventy-ninth year of Rome, Pyrrhus was defeated by Curius Dentatus. In the war againſt Hannibal, Beneventum ſignalized its attachment to Rome, by liberal tenders of ſuccour, and real ſervices. Its reception of Gracchus, after his defeat of Hanno, is extolled by Livy; and, from the gratitude of the Senate, many ſolid advantages accrued to the Beneventines. As they long partook, in a diſtinguiſhed manner, of the glories and proſperity of the Roman empire,—they alſo ſeverely felt the effects of its decline, and ſhared, in a large proportion, the horrors of devaſtation that attended the irruption of the northern nations.

The modern hiſtory of this city will appear intereſting to thoſe readers, who do not deſpiſe the events of ages, which we uſually and juſtly call dark and barbarous. They certainly are of importance to all the preſent ſtates of Europe; for at that period originated the political exiſtence of moſt of them. Had no northern ſavages deſcended from their ſnowy mountains, to overturn the Roman coloſſus, and break aſunder the fetters of mankind, few of thoſe powers, which now make ſo formidable a figure, would ever have been ſo much as heard of. The avengers of the general wrongs were, no doubt, the deſtroyers of arts and literature, and brought on the thick clouds of ignorance, which, for many centuries, no gleam of light could penetrate; but

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it is to be remembered, alſo, that the Romans themſelves had already made great progreſs in baniſhing true taſte and knowledge, and would very ſoon have been a barbarous nation, though neither Goths nor Vandals had ever approached the frontier.

The Lombards came the laſt of the Scythian or Scandinavian hordes, to invade Italy. After fixing the ſeat of their empire at Pavia, they ſent a detachment to poſſeſs itſelf of the ſouthern provinces. In 571, Zotto was appointed Duke of Benevento, as a feudatory of the King of Lombardy; and ſeems to have confined his rule to the city alone, from which he ſallied forth to ſeek for booty. The ſecond Duke, whoſe name was Arechis, conquered almoſt the whole country that now conſtitutes the kingdom of Naples. His ſucceſſors appear long to have remained ſatisfied with the extent of dominion he had tranſmitted to them. Grimwald, one of them, uſurped the crown of Lombardy; but his ſon Romwald, though a very ſucceſsful warrior, contented himſelf with the ducal title. The fall of Deſiderius, laſt King of the Lombards, did not affect the ſtate of Benevento. By an effort of policy or reſolution, Arechis the Second kept poſſeſſion; and availing himſelf of the favourable conjuncture, aſſerted his independence,—threw off all feudal ſubmiſſion,—aſſumed the ſtile of Prince,—and coined money with his own image upon it; a prerogative exerciſed by none of his predeceſſors, as Dukes of Benevento. During four reigns, this ſtate maintained

itſelf on a reſpectable footing; and might long have continued ſo, had not civil war, added to very powerful aſſaults from abroad, haſtened its ruin. Radelchis and Siconulph aſpired to the principality; and each of them invited the Saracens to his aid. The deſolation cauſed by this conflict is ſcarcely to be deſcribed. No better method for terminating theſe fatal diſſentions could be deviſed, than dividing the dominions into two diſtinct ſovereignties. In 851, Radelchis reigned as Prince at Benevento; and his adverſary fixed his court, with the ſame title, at Salerno. From this treaty of partition, the ruin of the Lombards became inevitable: a want of union undermined their ſtrength,—foreigners gained an aſcendant over them,—irreſolution and weakneſs pervaded their whole ſyſtem of government. The erection of Capua into a third principality, was another deſtructive operation: and now the inroads of the Saracens,—the attacks of the eaſtern and weſtern emperors,—anarchy and animoſity at home—reduced the Lombard ſtates to ſuch wretchedneſs, that they were able to make a very feeble reſiſtance to the Norman arms. The city of Benevento alone eſcaped their ſway, by a grant which the Emperor Henry the Second had made of it to the Biſhop of Rome, in exchange for the territory of Bamberg in Germany, where the Popes enjoyed a kind of ſovereignty. From the year 1054 to this day, the Roman See, with ſome ſhort interruptions of poſſeſſion, has exerciſed temporal dominion over this city. Benevento has

given three Popes to the chair of St. Peter; viz. Felix the Third, Victor the Third, and Gregory the Eighth; and, what it is much prouder of, reckons St. Januarius in the liſt of its Biſhops.

SECTION LVI.

I TOOK a walk in the evening to the field of battle, where Charles of Anjou defeated Manfred; and in the way would gladly have perſuaded my conductor to ſhew me the ſpot where the famous walnut-tree grew, round which the witches were ſuppoſed to aſſemble and keep their Sabbath. He denied having any knowledge of the place, though he confeſſed he believed that many old women of the neighbourhood were very well acquainted with it, and that ſeveral of his friends had heard the noiſes the ſorcereſſes make in the air, as they ride along on their broomſticks. This reſort of witches, which was believed by all writers upon dæmonology, and is ſtill ſo among the peaſants hereabouts, is founded upon a very old tradition. The Lombards, whoſe creed differed little from that of other nations of Celtic origin, had a great veneration for trees, and were wont to perform, under particular hallowed ones, ſuch rites as were enjoined them by their ancient inſtitutions. At Benevento, the place of meeting was under a large walnut-tree; and it was cuſtomary to hang on the branches the

figure of a viper, with two heads, coiled up. A ring of this kind was found ſome years ago. This ſymbol, which is expreſſive of the vital principle, is among the oldeſt emblems invented by man, and may be traced through the religion of all nations, from Japan to Iceland. When St. Barbatus converted the Beneventine Lombards to Chriſtianity, he cauſed the tree to be cut down; but the Legend gravely inſorms us, that the Devil found means to raiſe ſuckers out of the root, round which he and his ſultanas from Lapland, and other ſeminaries of magicians, flock by night to celebrate their infernal orgies.

The plain, where the battle was fought, lies about two miles down the river. Neither commander ſeems to have diſplayed any great military ſkill, but to have reſted the event upon the valour of his troops. Charles, indeed, had an advantage in the known treachery of the Neapolitan Barons in the Swabian army; as moſt of them had been gained over by his promiſes, or the Pope's ſpiritual threats. Manfred ſeeing the traitors refuſe to charge, ruſhed with his faithful adherents into the thickeſt of the fray, where he was ſlain. His body remained above a day undiſcovered, till a peaſant, who was well acquainted with his perſon, found it, and laying it acroſs his aſs, called out in deriſion, Who will attack Manfred? The French officers ſued in vain to their chief for leave to depoſit the corpſe in holy ground. Pignatelli, the Pope's Legate, inſiſted upon its being thrown into a ditch: every ſoldier in the army caſt a ſtone upon the

the grave, and thus raiſed a barrow over it. But this fanatical Prelate, whoſe revenge nothing could ſatisfy, cauſed the bones to be taken up, and ſcattered on the banks of the river Verde in Abruzzo, where no friend or humane perſon might find them, and again commit them to earth. Thus ended Manfred.—No Prince has been more virulently traduced by the Guelph writers, whoſe intereſt and hatred combined to ſet his character in as bad a light as poſſible, in order to ſtrengthen the claim of his opponent, and to ſupport the high pretenſions of the church. Some Ghibellines have attempted to do him juſtice. It would be no difficult taſk, with the documents that may be obtained from the chronicles of the thirteenth century, to draw up a fair ſtate of the queſtion, and vindicate Manfred from many of the heavy charges brought againſt him. An ingenious Author, in his hiſtoric doubts concerning our King Richard the Third, has pointed out the way of proceeding in ſuch a redintegration of character. Thoſe unfortunate monarchs reſembled each other in many particulars; but undoubtedly the Neapolitan greatly deſerves the preference. Manfred was beautiful in his perſon, accompliſhed in all arts then becoming a gentleman; affable, magnificent, liberal, great in his views, and anxious for the welfare of his people; inflexible and impartial in the diſtribution of juſtice; learned, for the times he lived in; and a protector of thoſe who cultivated ſcience. On the other hand, I muſt not diſſemble his contempt for religion,—but I impute the fault

to the complexion of the times in which he lived,—when the temporal dictates of the Pope were ſo artfully interwoven with the ſpiritual dogmas of the church, that whoever dared to diſpute the former, was apt to reject the latter,—at leaſt was ſuppoſed ſo to do. I believe him to have indulged a paſſion for the fair ſex; but, had he been permitted to live longer, age would no doubt have brought on repentance, and he might have died in as good repute as Charlemagne, Lewis the Fourteenth, or any other great and amorous monarch. Manfred was ambitious,—and, to obtain a crown, infringed the laws of inheritance: but a defence of his conduct, on that point, would look like a ſatire on his numberleſs fellow-culprits, from Cæſar down to Kouli Khan;—and I muſt have better proofs than any yet alleged, to convince me of his having been a murderer and a parricide. If we had not examples, in all ages, of the like weakneſſes in other great men, I ſhould be aſtoniſhed to find Manfred ſuch a believer in aſtrology and omens. He gave an inſtance of this credulity, as he was marching to battle, by being ſo ſhocked at the falling of a ſilver eagle from his helmet, that he turned pale, and cried out, "This is a ſign from God!"

On leaving Benevento, I croſſed the Calore, and travelled to Monteſarchio, up hill moſt of the way, by a very fine road. Three bridges, built of immenſe blocks of ſtone, are the only remains of the *Via Appia*. The ſoil varies, but is in many places volcanical: one ſmall hill is an entire lump of

of lava. Monteſarchio, a large town belonging to the Prince of Troja, ſtands at the head of a plain ſurrounded with lofty mountains on every ſide, except the north-weſt corner, where the chain is broken. This plain is of an oblong ſhape, and has, in my opinion, been originally the crater of a very large volcano, and afterwards a lake. The ſediment of the waters may have levelled and filled up the bottom; and at laſt a ſhock may have broken down ſome part of the environing hills, and let out the water. Torrents waſhing down the ſoil of the mountains, may have continued to raiſe the level, and cultivation completed the drainage. This ſeems to me, from its ſize and poſition, to be the place where the Roman Conſuls, and their army of thirty thouſand men, were enveloped and captured by the Samnites, who poſſeſſed themſelves of the high grounds,—blocked up the paſs that leads eaſtward to Benevento,—and, as ſoon as the Romans had entered the valley, cloſed up the way from Arpaia, by which the legions had entered. I know it is uſual to call the narrow dell below Arpaia, or that which leads to Durazzano, by the name of the Caudine Forks; and diſſertations have been written to prove and explain this idea. But thoſe vallies are ſo ſhort and narrow, that I cannot conceive how ſo many thouſand armed men, in marching array, could be ſqueezed into the ſpace. It is clear that the vanguard muſt have marched out at the head of the defile, before the rear could arrive at the bottom; which would effectually have fruſtrated the

ſcheme

ſcheme of the Samnites. The flatneſs of the plain of Monteſarchio is not a ſufficient reaſon for rejecting my ſuppoſition, becauſe earth waſhed from mountains, ruins of houſes, and fall of wood—muſt, in the proceſs of ages, have raiſed the ſoil conſiderably, and changed the whole face of the country. At the Forchia d'Arpaia, the ancient Caudium—the paſs is ſtill ſo narrow, the hills on each ſide ſo bold and ſteep, that even now it would be eaſy to throw in ſuch an abattis as could not be forced, though defended only by a handful of men.

From hence the deſcent is rapid to Arienzo, by a beautiful winding valley, well ſhaded with hanging woods of cheſnut-trees;—the road excellent. Arienzo is a large burgh, in a low but delightful ſituation, ſurrounded with vineyards and gardens. It belonged to Etendart, one of Charles the Firſt's generals,—then to Boffa,—and now to Caraffa, Duke of Madaloni.

Here I left the hills, and travelled to Acerra, a neat city, walled round after the old manner, in a very flat, wet ſituation. Large drains prevent the river Lagno from being ſo deſtructive to its territory as it was in the time of the Romans, when its poſition was bad to a proverb. This fief was firſt held by a branch of the Aquino family, which failed in 1292. Otho of Brunſwick received it from his wife Joan the Firſt, and ſold it to Orſino. In Charles the Third's reign, Protogiudice had it; and, under Joan the Second, it paſſed to Origlia: Alphonſus the Firſt inveſted

Cardines

Cardines with it.—Acerra is called the country of Punchinellos, becauſe that comic character, which is to the Neapolitan ſtage what Harlequin the Bergamaſque is to the other Italian ones, is always underſtood to be a native of this little city. Punchinello is the wit, the droll of Neapolitan comedy,—ſpeaks the provincial jargon, and has the excluſive privilege of ſaying good things and double entendres. He is ſuch a favourite, that, in carnival time, the ſtreets of Naples are crowded with maſks in his dreſs, all acting inimitably a part, for which they are ſo exactly formed by nature. From Acerra to Naples, the road is ſandy, through one continued wood of vines and poplars.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

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